

READING INTERESTS OF NEGRO CHILDREN

by

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## INTRODUCTION: THE PROBLEM

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### Chapter I

Quite apart from the introduction of technique and procedures in the teaching of reading some consideration might be given to the likes and dislikes of the pupils with reference to choice of subject matter which they read, for criticism falls upon the selection of subject matter for instruction without consideration of its inherent interest for the learner. Very generally, it is agreed that interest is a potent factor in all human activity and the same is an essential element in securing desired ends in human learning. Interest is the means by which the mind is drawn to any object and is a most important factor in the acquisition of knowledge.

The proper selection of reading matter involves an investigation of the reading interests of the pupils. A list of reading material made up from materials which have been selected with the experience and interest of the pupil in mind may provide additional incentive for improving rate and comprehension in our reading courses, and may reveal the starting point for creating the better tastes in reading and the finer appreciations for the more desirable literature.

After some trial and experiment by several teachers of Negro children, it was found that some better results were

obtained when these pupils were allowed to select their own stories for reading lessons from any source they wished. There was much enthusiasm aroused. Better comprehension and understanding were noted. More types and classes of material were presented and thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils.

In view of the foregoing an attempt is made to reveal the types or classes of reading matter which appeal to Negro children and interest them.

A survey of the field shows that considerable study has been made of the interests of school children in reading. The most recent studies are those by Dr. A. M. Jordan, "Children's Interests in Reading", Dr. Fannie Wyche Dunn, "Interest Factors in Primary Reading, Material", W. L. Uhl, "Interest of Junior High School Pupils in Informational Reading Selections", "Scientific Determination of the Content of the Elementary School Course in Reading", and G. W. Willet, "Reading Interests of High School Pupils".

Dr. Jordan has made an extensive study of children's reading interests in three towns and one city by means of the questionnaire. The study records the data gathered from 3598 pupils included in the schools of Fayetteville, Arkansas, Lawrence, Kansas, Stuttgart, Arkansas, and Washington, D. C. The work is elaborate. It reveals the interests of boys and girls in various types of literature



at all age levels from 9 to 23 years, inclusive.

The work of Dr. Dunn is an inquiry into the interest of children of the first, second and third grades. The data are derived from the expressed preferences of children for certain paragraphs from pairs of samples read to them for comparison.

The study made by Uhl is an investigation for the purpose of studying the content of elementary school, reading courses and with a view to formulating plans for improving it. The method of the investigation was to obtain reactions directly from teachers and pupils upon selections read in school, and then to study those reactions with a view to formulating plans for selecting, standardizing and organizing the material of the reading course.

In all the studies reviewed, however, no study has indicated any attempt to discover the reading interests of Negro children independent of other children. It is the purpose of this study to reveal the types of reading matter Negro children enjoy reading when left alone to choose for themselves.

No attempt is made to assign a cause or reason for choices indicated. Although the reason for some choices may be obvious it shall be the purpose of the study to reveal choices only rather than account for them. There is no at-

tempt made to compare the results of the reading study in this group with the results obtained in other groups.

The study is confined to the schools of Kansas City, Kansas, and the data are secured from pupils of the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth grades.

INVESTIGATION BY METHOD OF THE  
QUESTIONNAIRE  
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Chapter II

From the recent studies made by Dr. Jordan and Dr. Dunn, it is indicated that it is entirely feasible to obtain from children approximately correct responses in regard to their choice in reading provided the questions are simple enough and the answers obtained would not under any circumstances be used against them.

A questionnaire was submitted to the pupils in the eleven elementary schools and the one junior high school which are attended exclusively by Negro children.

In constructing the questionnaire the attempt was made to make it as simple as possible in order to avoid possible confusion for the pupil. The questionnaire was constructed on the experience of the average sixth grade pupils. That is, an average sixth grade class was used as a tryout group in constructing the questionnaire. However it was tested sufficiently in the slower divisions of the fourth grade to be certain that it was simple enough for all grades and ages.

A number of short stories was included in the ex-

ercise. These short selections were chosen as representatives of the different kinds of stories listed in Item VI, page 2 of the questionnaire. Each represents a particular kind of story. These stories were chosen in this manner. Pupils in several classes were asked to select the most interesting story they could find and read it to the class. They were permitted to get the story from any source. A number of short stories of each kind was selected from the many stories which the pupils had given as their most interesting ones, by a group of English teachers, after the pupils had decided that these were the most interesting. Five of each kind were reprinted and given to a class of 37 pupils of the sixth grade to read. This class represented the average sixth grade class as indicated by intelligence test scores (Illinois Intelligence Examination), reading test scores, arithmetic test scores, and teachers' judgments. These pupils were asked to indicate the kind of story they thought each was, on a sheet especially prepared for this exercise. The sheets were collected and the pupils' judgments noted. It was found that the pupils' judgments were more satisfactory in determining the story's trueness to type than the judgments of teachers.

In each case the story selected as representative of a type was the result of the agreement of not fewer than

35 pupils of the 37 in the class.

Thirteen stories were selected. There are only twelve kinds listed in Item VI. Stories number VII and IX are representative of the same type, How to Make Things. It is assumed that boys will enjoy making different things from the things girls will enjoy. So story number VII is included particularly because of its interest for girls, and the story, number IX, is included because of its particular interest for boys.

In the questionnaire the pupils were asked to read each of the short stories and indicate on the lines provided at the end of each story the kind of story they thought it represented and whether they liked or did not like such a story.

To avoid misunderstanding a sheet of directions\* was written for the guidance of the teacher who was to assist in giving this exercise. It provided explanation for each item in the questionnaire. The explanations and definitions, particularly those used to define and explain the kinds of stories in Item VI, and Things Found in the Newspaper, Item XI, are the words of the pupils themselves. The definitions given are in the language of the pupils.

There was no time limit on the exercise, thereby eliminating any oversight of items because of haste. The

\*Appendix A.

teacher looked over the booklets as each pupil finished to see that nothing was omitted.

After several revisions and trials with different groups of pupils, the questionnaire as it appears was the result and was used in this study.\*

The exercise was given in all the schools on the same day. On the day before, all the teachers who were to assist in giving the exercise were interviewed. The exact nature of the study was made known to them and their interest was enlisted. The questionnaire and the sheet of directions were explained thoroughly to the teachers. It is believed that the directions in every instance were carefully followed.

The pupils in each room were told at the beginning of the exercise that nothing would be marked against them for any response they made. They were assured that each answer they gave was as good as that of any other pupil provided that the answer given was what they knew to be true.

The pupils followed the teachers' instructions attentively and in most cases eagerly. There were only a few who took the matter as a joke. These chance errors which crept in were insufficient to cause any deviation from the central tendency of interest.

\*Appendix A.

The data secured through this questionnaire indicated that there were 1455 pupils in the grades interviewed. Of these 669 were boys and 786 were girls. The pupils ranged in ages from 9 to 19 years among boys, and from 8 to 18 years among girls. In Table I is set forth the distribution of pupils questioned by ages and grades.

The median age for each grade is indicated to be as follows: Boys, grade IV, 11.33 years; grade V, 12.5 years; Grade VI, 13.2 years; grade VII, 13.9 years; grade VIII, 14.7 years; grade IX, 15.5 years. Girls, grade IV, 10.8 years; grade V, 11.8 years; grade VI, 12.9 years; grade VII, 14.0 years; grade VIII, 14.6 years; grade IX, 15.5 years. It is clearly seen that there is a wide range of ages in each grade. This of course will reflect differences in interest as is indicated in the results shown by grades and results by ages. Results by age and by grade will be displayed because of this difference.

It was felt that the occupation of parent might influence the reading interests of pupils in the home. Each pupil was asked to write the kind of work his parents did. The occupation of each parent was ascertained. Where there were no parents the occupation of the guardian was asked. The responses showed that only 79 pupils, 36 boys and 43 girls, came from homes where parents and guardians were en-

Table I

Distribution of Pupils Interviewed by Age and Grade. Boys and Girls Indicated. -

Ages	Sex	Grades						Total
		IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	
8	B*							
	G*	5	1					6
9	B	32	5	1				38
	G	42	5					47
10	B	43	27	2				72
	G	42	41	8	1			92
11	B	38	30	15	4	2		89
	G	30	50	33	3			116
12	B	30	29	34	17	4		114
	G	13	33	44	28	2		120
13	B	15	20	20	34	15	3	107
	G	17	25	39	26	25	8	140
14	B	11	27	19	17	18	18	110
	G	11	9	20	33	32	16	121
15	B	2	8	12	14	12	19	67
	G	2	9	10	15	21	33	90
16	B	4	3	5	13	14	19	58
	G	1		3	11	8	18	41
17	B	1		1	3	3	3	11
	G				1		6	7
18	B			1				1
	G			1	1	2	2	6
19	B		2					2
	G							
Total	B	176	151	110	102	68	62	669
	G	163	173	158	119	90	83	786
Median Ages	B	11.33	12.5	13.2	13.9	14.7	15.5	
	G	10.8	11.8	12.9	14.0	14.6	15.5	

B\* - Boys  
G\* - Girls



Table II      Distribution of Pupils Having Library Cards  
by Sex, Age and Grade.    Percents of Totals Indicated.

[illegible]

gaged in the professions or skilled vocations. This represented only 5.43 per cent of the total number of pupils. These pupils are so widely distributed both by age and by grade that whatever difference exists is too slight to influence the central tendency of interest. No further consideration is given to influence of occupations.

A high per cent of both boys and girls expressed themselves as liking to read. There were 635 boys, about 95 per cent, and 769 girls, about 97 per cent, to express a fondness for reading.

The library is open to boys and girls alike and Negro children experience no embarrassment in obtaining books. But rather they are encouraged by their teachers and librarian to make the largest possible use of the library facilities. The responses to this item in the questionnaire is shown in Table II. It is seen that 264 boys or 39 per cent have library cards, and 336 girls or 43 per cent possess cards. About 600 cards are held by pupils in the grades examined. This represents about 41 per cent of the total.

In Tables III and IV the interest in particular kinds of stories, under Item VI, is shown on basis of 100 pupils for each grade level and age group respectively. This arrangement places all records upon the same basis and makes them comparable. They are better understood.

Among the kinds of stories chosen Bible stories first demand attention, not because of sentiment, but because more pupils evince an interest in this type of reading matter than any other type. The facts are:

Ages	8-9*	10	11	12	13	14	15	16*
Boys	95	81	76	83	82	84	98	81
Girls	81	93	90	88	92	91	83	91
Grades	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX		
Boys	80	87	88	77	87	80		
Girls	82	91	98	89	88	85		

The most evident facts in these diminutive tables are (1) the great place of Bible stories in the interest of both boys and girls, (2) the striking difference between boys and girls at each age level which is not so marked at each grade level, (3) more girls evince an interest in the type than boys while the interest on the part of both is very high. It is highest with boys at 15 years and girls at 10 years.

The funny story or humorous type of story ranks second and is chosen by a large percentage of both boys and girls at each age and grade level. A very high per cent of boys evince an interest in humour at the early age of 9 years.

\* All girls at age 8 years are classed with the 9 year olds. All pupils above 16 years of age are classed as 16 years old in cases of both boys and girls. The numbers are small.

**Table III Percentages of Boys and Girls in Grades IV to IX Who Evince an Interest in Various Kinds of Stories. Percentages of the Total for Boys and Girls are Indicated. Rank of Each Type of Story is Shown.**

Grade		: IV :	V :	VI :	VII:	VIII:	IX :	Total:	Rank	
No. in :	Boys :	176 :	151 :	110 :	102 :	68 :	62 :	669 :		
Grade :	Girls:	163 :	173 :	158 :	119 :	90 :	83 :	786 :		
Bible	B	80	87	88	77	87	80	83	1	
	G	82	91	98	89	88	85	89		1
Lives of People	B	60	58	78	68	76	68	66	6	
	G	63	52	74	88	75	76	67		2
Other People	B	59	58	57	61	68	59	59	7	
	G	68	64	71	70	68	76	69		3
Animal Life	B	67	66	69	70	71	79	68	4	
	G	51	59	66	63	52	61	60		8
Plant Life	B	43	39	52	45	45	56	45	11	
	G	55	58	57	56	47	58	55		9
How to Make	B	62	74	76	65	78	76	69	3	
	G	57	67	76	72	73	69	68		4.5
Adventure	B	58	63	73	68	82	77	67	5	
	G	36	39	50	51	55	59	46		11
Fairy or Myth	B	47	50	59	48	60	32	49	10	
	G	53	72	77	80	62	69	68		4.5
Bedtime	B	64	51	49	42	46	37	51	9	
	G	62	71	73	67	50	40	63		7
Funny	B	69	77	72	67	85	76	71	2	
	G	61	83	77	86	77	78	76		2
Sad	B	26	26	15	12	26	18	22	12	
	G	31	34	21	36	39	35	31		12
Information	B	42	48	53	56	79	66	53	8	
	G	40	48	51	51	62	64	50		10

(The table reads: 80 per cent of boys and 82 per cent of girls in grade IV like to read Bible stories, and so on for the whole table. 83 per cent of the total number of boys and 89 per cent of the total number of girls for all the grades like Bible stories. The story ranks one for boys and ranks one for girls.)

**Table IV Percentages of Boys and Girls at Certain Ages Who Evince an Interest in Various Types of Stories. Percentages of the Totals for Boys and Girls are Indicated. Rank of Each Type is Shown.**

Ages		:8-9:	10:	11:	12:	13:	14:	15:	16	:Total:	Rank
No. of :	Boys :	38:	72:	89:	114:	107:	110:	67:	72 :	669:	
Pupils :	Girls:	53:	92:	116:	120:	140:	121:	90:	54 :	786:	
Bible	B	95	81	76	83	82	84	98	81	83	1
	G	81	93	90	88	92	91	83	91	89	1
Lives of People	B	50	63	67	68	85	60	61	73	66	6
	G	55	75	65	65	67	73	67	74	67	6
Other People	B	69	61	53	61	60	55	63	64	59	7
	G	62	78	66	69	63	73	65	73	69	3
Animal Life	B	82	72	54	73	72	64	72	67	68	4
	G	64	65	65	61	66	57	53	52	60	8
Plant Life	B	34	50	35	54	44	49	45	47	45	11
	G	55	54	55	55	53	59	51	55	55	9
How to Make	B	63	70	61	68	71	73	59	73	69	3
	G	60	64	65	64	78	73	65	70	68	4.5
Adventure	B	71	64	59	71	69	71	64	73	67	5
	G	43	41	49	46	46	54	42	42	46	11
Fairy or Myth	B	61	50	54	55	53	51	33	40	49	10
	G	57	68	67	70	78	71	65	54	68	4.5
Bedtime	B	84	68	54	56	50	36	37	37	51	9
	G	68	65	71	68	64	64	47	46	63	7
Funny	B	82	81	66	69	75	75	69	62	71	2
	G	66	74	79	87	80	91	75	65	76	2
Sad	B	29	38	15	26	19	23	13	19	22	12
	G	22	35	30	32	33	32	38	30	31	12
Information	B	61	46	50	55	53	56	54	60	53	8
	G	40	52	53	45	51	55	51	34	50	10

(The table reads: 95 per cent of boys and 81 per cent of girls at ages 8-9 years like to read Bible stories, and so on for the whole table. 83 per cent of the total number of boys and 89 per cent of the total number of girls for all the ages like the Bible story. The story ranks one for boys and ranks one for girls.)

Interest in How to Make Things fluctuates in the case of both boys and girls. Interest in this type ranks third for boys. On the whole a considerable number of boys express interest in this type. Girls are only slightly lower than boys in expression of interest in this kind of story. Girls are even higher than boys at ages 11, 13 and 15 years, while the interest is about the same at 14 years. In the sixth grade the interest is about the same but girls rise higher in the seventh grade.

For boys the animal stories command more interest than for girls. It is at age 11 years that boys show a lack of interest and <sup>is</sup> exceeded by girls. There is a gradual increase of interest among boys at the grade levels. But in age groups there is considerable fluctuation among boys, while there is a gradual increase among girls to age 13 years and then a gradual decrease is shown.

In adventure considerable difference is seen between boys and girls. More boys choose stories of adventure than girls. Almost a third more boys show interest in adventure than girls. There is a gradual increase in interest from the fourth grade through the ninth in the case of both boys and girls. However there is a slight decrease among boys of the seventh grade. This is true of seventh grade boys in most of the types of stories.

Lives of eminent people or biography is of considerable interest to both boys and girls. On the whole there is very little difference in the amount of interest displayed by grades and ages. The interest is smaller at the beginning and increases as pupils grow older.

Interest in people of other lands or travel is more pronounced in girls than in boys. With girls this type of story ranks third, while among boys it ranks seventh.

Boys are slightly more interested in the information type of story than the girls. Perhaps this interest is influenced by general science or history. There is a gradual increase in interest in the grades among boys which reaches its climax in the eighth grade and decreases in the ninth. The increase in interest is gradual among girls and reaches its climax in the ninth grade.

The bedtime story is quite popular with little folks among both boys and girls, but interest decreases as the pupils grow older. Girls, however, seem to grow more interested until the sixth grade, then there is the rapid decline.

A larger percentage of girls in each age group are interested in fairy tales and myths than boys. More girls are interested at 13 years than at any other age. Among boys the interest is greater at 9 years.

Stories of plant life have far more interest for girls than for boys. On the whole 55 girls are interested as compared with 45 boys.

Very few express an interest in the sad story. It is not popular with either girls or boys. Yet girls do evince more interest than boys. When asked to indicate the stories that were not liked the sad story was the only story in which marked dislike was expressed. (See Tables IX and X).

In Item VII in the questionnaire, the pupils were asked to indicate by a second check three types of stories that are the best liked. Tables V and VI show the results for boys and Tables VII and VIII show the results for girls. These tables perhaps indicate more truly what their real choices are.

In expressing their best liked types of stories, boys at age 9 years prefer, first, funny stories; second, Bible stories; third, bedtime stories. At age 10 years preference is shown for Bible stories first, bedtime, second, and funny stories, third. At age 11 to 14 years, inclusive, Bible stories are first, adventure, second, and How to make things, third. At ages 15 to 16 years inclusive Bible stories lead, adventure ranks second, and information, third.

In the special choice of three types on grade



Table V Best Liked Kinds of Stories Chosen by Boys in Certain Grades. Times Chosen in Item VI, Special Choice Indicated by Item VII and Per Cent of Total Choices Are Here Indicated. Totals and Rank.

Kinds of: Stories :		Grades	:	IV:	V :	VI:	VII:	VIII:	IX:	To- tals:	Ra- nk
Bible	Times Chosen	141	132	97	79	59	50	558			
	Special Choice	97	82	77	57	32	34	379			
	Per Cent	70	54	79	72	54	68	66	1		
How to Make	Times Chosen	109	102	84	66	53	47	461			
	Special Choice	43	33	34	35	23	17	185			
	Per Cent	40	32	40	53	43	36	40	4		
Adven- ture	Times Chosen	102	95	81	70	56	48	452			
	Special Choice	38	40	41	40	43	30	232			
	Per Cent	37	42	50	57	77	62	51	2		
Bedtime	Times Chosen	112	76	54	43	31	23	339			
	Special Choice	49	25	6	4	1	4	89			
	Per Cent	44	32	11	10	3	11	26	6		
Funny	Times Chosen	121	106	79	68	58	47	479			
	Special Choice	69	44	16	34	21	15	199			
	Per Cent	57	43	20	50	36	32	42	3		
Infor- mation	Times Chosen	74	73	59	57	54	41	358			
	Special Choice	8	15	21	18	23	21	106			
	Per Cent	11	21	36	31	43	51	29	5		

(The table reads: the Bible Story was chosen 141 times by boys in grade IV and that 97 or 70 per cent of them considered it one of their best likes stories, and so on for each grade in the table. The totals show that 558 chose the story and 379 of the total number or 66 per cent considered it one of their special choice. It ranks one because a larger per cent showed special preference for it than any other kind. Each kind of story is treated in this manner.)

**Table VI** Best Liked Kinds of Stories Chosen by Boys at Certain Ages. Times Chosen in Item VI, Special Choice Indicated by Item VII and Per Cent of Total Choices are Here Indicated. Totals and Ranks.

Kinds of: Stories :		Ages	:	9:	10:	11:	12:	13:	14:	15:	16-19 :	To- tals:	Ra- nk
Bible	Times Chosen			36	58	68	94	88	92	66	56	558	
	Special Choice			23	38	41	76	48	71	37	45	379	
	Per Cent			64	66	60	77	55	77	66	80	66	1
How to Make	Times Chosen			24	50	54	78	76	80	45	54	461	
	Special Choice			5	19	28	27	33	34	15	24	185	
	Per Cent			21	38	52	34	45	43	33	44	40	4
Adven- ture	Times Chosen			27	46	52	81	74	78	43	51	452	
	Special Choice			9	16	30	43	39	39	22	34	232	
	Per Cent			33	35	58	53	53	50	51	66	51	2
Bedtime	Times Chosen			32	49	48	64	54	40	25	27	339	
	Special Choice			12	23	20	13	8	6	3	4	89	
	Per Cent			38	53	42	20	15	15	12	15	26	6
Funny	Times Chosen			31	58	59	79	80	83	46	45	479	
	Special Choice			23	28	28	23	36	24	18	19	199	
	Per Cent			74	48	47	29	45	29	38	42	42	3
Infor- mation	Times Chosen			23	33	44	63	57	62	36	40	358	
	Special Choice			2	3	8	18	15	26	14	20	106	
	Per Cent			9	9	18	28	26	42	40	50	29	5

(The table is read and interpreted in the same manner as Table V except that choices are indicated by ages and not by grades as is shown in Table V.)

Table VII Best Liked Kinds of Stories Chosen by Girls in Certain Grades. Times Chosen in Item VI, Special Choice Indicated by Item VII, and Per Cent of Total Choices are Here Indicated. Totals and Ranks.

Kinds of: Stories :		Grades	:	IV:	V :	VI:	VII:	VIII:	IX:	To- tals:	Rank
Bible	Times Chosen			134	157	154	105	79	71	700	
	Special Choice			115	115	114	64	55	44	507	
	Per Cent			86	73	74	61	70	62	72	1
Fairy- Myth	Times Chosen			87	124	121	94	56	57	539	
	Special Choice			39	54	58	50	38	31	270	
	Per Cent			50	44	48	53	68	54	51	3
Bedtime	Times Chosen			101	123	116	78	45	33	496	
	Special Choice			70	55	45	22	13	9	214	
	Per Cent			68	44	40	28	29	27	43	4
Funny	Times Chosen			99	143	121	101	69	65	598	
	Special Choice			65	85	62	55	44	32	343	
	Per Cent			65	60	51	54	63	50	53	2

(The table is read and interpreted in the same manner as Table V.)

Table VIII Best Liked Kinds of Stories Chosen by Girls at Certain Ages. (Data derived in manner of the above table.)

Kinds of: Stories :		:8-9:	10:	11:	12:	13:	14:	15:	16 To- 18: totals:	:Ra nk
Bible	Times Chosen	43	86	104	106	127	110	75	49	700
	Special Choice	31	67	80	87	92	63	49	38	507
	Per Cent	70	78	80	82	72	57	65	72	72 1
Fairy- Myth	Times Chosen	30	63	78	84	110	86	59	29	539
	Special Choice	11	41	40	37	52	46	31	12	270
	Per Cent	36	65	51	44	52	53	52	41	51 3
Bedtime	Times Chosen	36	61	83	82	89	78	42	25	496
	Special Choice	22	32	50	34	36	18	16	6	214
	Per Cent	61	52	60	42	40	26	40	25	43 4
Funny	Times Chosen	35	68	92	93	111	96	68	35	598
	Special Choice	19	37	58	55	63	55	39	17	343
	Per Cent	54	47	63	60	56	57	57	49	53 2

(The table is read and interpreted in the same manner as Table V, except that choices are indicated by ages and not by grades as is shown in Table V.)

levels, it is seen that Bible stories rank first in each grade except the eighth. There is a decidedly greater interest in adventure in this grade. Only 54 per cent of the boys chose the Bible story while 77 per cent express interest in adventure. Adventure is second in grades VI, VII and IX. It ranks third in grade V. The funny story is second in grades IV and V. How to make things is third in grades VI to VIII. The information type ranks equal with the How to Make type of stories in the grade VIII. In grade IX the information story ranks third.

Except in the case of Bible stories, which ranks first in all grades and in all age groups among girls, the choices of girls are different from the boys. In the special choices of girls, the funny story ranks second at ages 11 to 16-18 years inclusive. The bedtime and fairy stories ranking second at ages 8 and 9 years and 10 years respectively. The fairy or myth ranks third at ages 12 to 16-18 years, inclusive. The bedtime ranks third at ages 10 and 11 years. The funny story ranks third at ages 8 and 9 years.

By grades the bedtime story ranks second in grade IV and shares rank three with fairy stories in grade V. The fairy story ranks third in grades VI and VII, and second in grades VIII and IX. The funny story ranks third in

grades IV, VIII and IX, and second in grades V, VI and VII.

Pupils were asked to indicate the kind or types of stories they do not like. The results show that the per cent of pupils expressing a dislike is very small in all grades and ages. The exception is found however in the type of story expressing sadness. This type is markedly in disfavor as was referred to above.

An investigation of the interests of boys and girls in items found in the newspaper reveals some facts worthy of our consideration here. These facts are set forth in Tables XI and XII.

The funny section is perhaps the most interesting feature of the newspaper for boys. Girls show as much interest as boys in the same class of items. More boys in the higher grades show interest than in the lower grades. But this interest is high in lower years of age. This is a true condition among girls. The interest fluctuates in both grades and years of age for both sexes.

School news is the most attractive item for girls, while it ranks second among boys. This interest in school news is perhaps the thing to be expected since the local daily newspapers feature this kind of news. Pupils are lead to take interest in this sort of news because they

Table IX. Outstanding Type of Story in Which Marked Dislike is Shown in Certain Grades. Reactions Indicated on Basis of 100.

Grades		IV:	V :	VI:	VII:	VIII:	IX:	Total
No. in	Boys	176;	151;	110:	102:	68:	62:	669
Grade	Girls	163:	173:	158:	119:	90:	83:	786
Sad Story	B	67	62	71	78	63	69	68
	G	51	59	61	54	50	48	54

(The table reads: 67 Per Cent of boys and 51 Per Cent of girls in grade IV do not like the sad type of story, and so on for the whole table. 68 Per Cent of the total number of boys and 54 Per Cent of the total number of girls do not like the sad story.)

Table X. Outstanding Type of Story in Which Marked Dislike is Shown at Certain Ages. Reactions Indicated on Basis of 100.

Ages		:8-9:	10:	11:	12:	13:	14:	15:	16:	Total
No. in	Boys:	38:	72:	89:	114:	107:	110:	67:	72:	669
Grade	Girls:	53:	92:	116:	120:	140:	121:	90:	54:	786
Sad Story	B	58	61	67	68	72	73	71	76	68
	G	52	53	65	56	48	49	53	54	54

(The table is read and interpreted as the above, Table IX, except the reaction by ages is shown rather than by grades.)

**Table XI.** Percentages of Boys and Girls in Grades IV to IX Who Evince an Interest in Various Newspaper Items. Percentages of the Totals of Boys and Girls are Indicated. Rank of Each Item is Shown.

Grades		IV :	V :	VI :	VII:VIII:	IX :	To- tals :	Rank
No. of Pupils	Boys Girls	176: 163:	151: 173:	110: 158:	102: 119:	68: 90:	62: 83: 669 786	:
Headlines	B G	37: 41:	28 33	34 37	47 52	71 52	74 53 42 42	9 9
Citizenship News	B G	34 45	44 38	45 41	44 39	56 50	48 49 43 43	8 8
Other Parts of U. S.	B G	48 52	47 40	54 47	52 56	75 58	67 55 53 50	7 6.5
Foreign News	B G	45 50	50 39	58 45	61 66	72 54	60 68 55 51	6 5
Editorials	B G	19 21	19 17	20 22	20 41	41 40	24 27 21 26	17 13
School News	B G	61 72	59 74	82 73	69 92	91 84	87 88 70 79	2 1
Advertise- ments	B G	21 32	28 32	32 33	32 56	56 49	44 38 31 39	13 10
Want-ads	B G	26 38	23 29	30 21	37 44	52 37	27 18 30 30	15 11
Sports and Athletics	B G	46 39	46 33	69 47	74 65	92 73	86 78 63 50	3 6.5
Stories	B G	63 70	52 72	67 68	52 78	76 78	63 76 60 73	4 3
Funny Section	B G	62 72	66 73	82 70	73 87	94 88	76 83 72 73	1 2
Puzzles	B G	63 58	40 65	72 60	51 70	59 62	56 64 56 63	5 4
Accidents	B G	29 20	33 23	36 16	36 39	49 47	36 40 34 29	10 12

(The table is read and interpreted in same manner as Table III.)



Table XI. Continued.

Grades		: IV : V : VI : VII:VIII: IX :								To- : tals: Rank
No. of Pupils	Boys	176:	151:	110:	102:	68:	62:	669 :		
	Girls	163:	173:	158:	119:	90:	83:	786 :		
Arrests	B	35	33	32	19	38	31	31	13	
	G	21	19	10	24	32	19	20		17
Hold-ups	B	32	34	35	36	44	26	34	11	
	G	19	20	11	26	46	23	22		15
Robberies	B	28	50	36	33	40	24	31	13	
	G	15	18	11	28	34	23	21		16
Murders	B	28	26	33	28	38	27	29	16	
	G	18	20	10	38	32	27	23		14

Table XII. Percentages of Boys and Girls at Certain Ages Who Evince an Interest in Various Newspaper Items. Percentages of the Totals of Boys and Girls are Indicated. Rank of Each Item is Shown.

Ages		:8-9: 10: 11: 12: 13: 14: 15:16-19:tals:								To- : tals: Rank
No. of Pupils	Boys:	38:	72:	89:	114:	107:	110:	67:	72 :	669:
	Girls:	53:	92:	116:	120:	140:	121:	90:	54 :	786:
Headlines	B	34	43	31	36	50	38	50	58	42 9
	G	37	39	29	42	45	41	48	61	42 9
Citizenship News	B	31	42	34	47	43	46	46	45	43 8
	G	41	39	31	55	42	36	45	59	43 8
Other Parts Of U. S.	B	44	56	38	50	60	55	58	59	53 7
	G	58	47	37	58	47	47	52	61	50 6.5
Foreign News	B	47	63	42	50	56	54	64	63	55 6
	G	54	46	32	61	58	54	55	57	51 5

(The table is read and interpreted as Table IV.)

Table XII. Continued.

Ages		:8-9:	10:	11:	12:	13:	14:	15:	16-19:	To-	Rank
No. of Boys:		38:	72:	89:	114:	107:	110:	67:	72 :	669:	
Pupils Girls:		53:	92:	116:	120:	140:	121:	90:	54 :	786:	
Editorials	B	18	22	15	21	25	27	22	18	21	17
	G	24	20	22	25	27	34	25	14	26	13
School News	B	78	73	56	64	71	69	71	86	70	2
	G	77	70	57	90	74	85	85	83	79	1
Advertisements	B	15	38	19	35	26	35	46	36	31	13
	G	30	35	33	39	39	43	42	44	39	10
Want-Ads	B	18	31	17	35	31	35	32	29	30	15
	G	28	32	21	28	33	36	30	29	30	11
Sports and Athletics	B	47	60	48	51	66	58	68	86	63	3
	G	41	39	31	49	50	58	67	70	50	6.5
Stories	B	78	71	61	52	61	55	55	66	60	4
	G	94	63	65	79	63	79	78	72	73	3
Funny Section	B	78	76	64	64	78	60	73	81	72	1
	G	77	64	61	85	70	85	83	77	73	2
Puzzles	B	81	45	53	46	68	56	61	54	56	3
	G	71	57	56	74	60	61	63	61	63	4
Accidents	B	39	41	25	30	36	30	40	29	34	10
	G	28	17	17	28	27	21	42	42	29	12
Arrests	B	39	36	26	30	28	27	28	26	31	13
	G	26	9	20	20	18	23	20	25	20	17
Hold-ups	B	34	44	25	28	39	28	40	36	34	11
	G	30	10	14	20	24	24	32	22	22	15
Robberies	B	31	33	25	28	39	30	35	27	31	13
	G	16	15	15	21	22	33	22	22	21	16
Murders	B	50	26	23	23	32	29	34	22	29	16
	G	24	15	14	25	21	26	27	28	22	14

are often mentioned in the columns, and their names often appear in print. School news is of greatest interest to girls at the age of 12 years. A large per cent of the girls of the seventh grade reflect interest here.

The boys evince a large amount of interest in sports and athletics. That interest while low in the lower grades rapidly increases until the maximum is reached in the ninth grade. In age groups the greatest interest is shown in the 16-19 years old group. Girls show a gradual increase in interest after a decline at grade V. It reaches its high peak at grade IX.

Stories that are published in our newspapers are of great interest to both boys and girls. Girls are even more interested in them than boys. It is rather surprising to find this interest more manifest at the early ages than later. Stories rank third among girls.

Puzzles hold a place of interest among both sexes. It is highest however among small boys about the age of 12 years. This interest reflects itself in grade VI among boys and grade VII among girls.

Foreign news is interesting to both sexes. Boys show more of it than girls on the whole. This interest is probably stimulated by classroom studies. Pupils are called upon to make use of foreign news especially in the study

of history and geography. Interest in travel may exert its influence just here. It is greatest among boys at 15 years and among girls at 12 years. Great interest is evinced among the boys of the eighth grade and girls of the seventh and ninth grades.

News from other parts of the United States has considerable interest for both boys and girls. Boys show a trifle more interest in this than girls it appears. However girls at early ages, and at 12 and 16 years are more interested than boys. The same is true in grades IV and VII.

Interest in citizenship news, such as elections, improvements, legislation, etc., is not great. On the whole boys and girls evince about the same amount of interest.

Newspaper headlines attract the attention of about 42 per cent of both boys and girls.

Boys are slightly interested in news of accidents. Girls show a pronounced dislike for this quality of news. Advertisements and want-ads have more charm for girls than for boys. Perhaps the display of wearing apparel and illustrations of dress styles which so often accompanies advertisements is the influence that creates the interest. Boys at age 15 years and girls at age 14 years are most

affected. This reflects itself in grade VIII among boys and grade VII among girls. In the case of want-ads boys evince a pronounced dislike rather than a large amount of interest in the items. Boys in grade VIII show most interest in this type of items.

Editorials have little attraction for boys and girls. Perhaps this lack of interest is due to the lack of emphasis placed on this part of the newspaper. A large per cent express themselves as not liking or never reading the editorial items.

Arrests, hold-ups, robberies, and murders have small interest for boys and girls. For a number of years teachers have discouraged the reading of these items in the newspapers. Probably this influence is the factor which brings these results. Tables XIII and XIV reflect the negative attitude toward these items. A large per cent of both boys and girls in the distribution, both by age and by grade, show a dislike for these items of news. Only the pronounced and most outstanding items are set forth here. The negative reaction toward the other things found in the newspaper is negligible. Many expressed no reaction on many of the news items.

In the expressed choices of the best liked items of news indicated for boys by grades the funny section ranks

Table XIII Outstanding Newspaper Items Not Read by Boys and Girls. Reaction Indicated on Basis of 100.

Grades		: IV:	V :	VI:	VII:	VIII:	IX :	Total
No. of	Boys	176:	151:	110:	102:	68:	62:	669
Pupils	Girls	163:	173:	158:	119:	90:	83:	786
Editorials	Boys	64	63	61	60	46	61	59
Advertisements	"	62	64	51	49	39	41	51
Want-Ads	"	61	62	59	53	39	47	54
Arrests	"	59	62	61	59	57	50	58
Robberies	"	62	63	58	63	58	67	62
Murders	"	61	58	56	53	46	62	56
Editorials	Girls	59	69	68	51	47	58	60
Accidents	"	71	64	70	51	49	47	59
Arrests	"	65	67	69	55	54	50	59
Hold-ups	"	59	62	63	58	59	56	58
Robbers	"	61	60	52	57	64	54	58
Murders	"	58	53	59	50	53	56	55

(The table reads as follows: 64 per cent of boys and 59 per cent of girls in Grade IV do not like to read editorials, and so on for the whole table.)

Table XIV Outstanding Newspaper Items Not Read by Boys and Girls at Certain Ages. Reactions Indicated on Basis of 100.

Ages		8-9:	10:	11:	12:	13:	14:	15:	16:	Total
No. of:	Boys	38:	72:	89:	114:	107:	110:	67:	72:	669
Pupils:	Girls	53:	92:	116:	120:	140:	121:	90:	54:	786
Editorials	Boys	61	58	64	56	51	61	59	58	59
Advertisements	"	60	59	61	43	51	34	47	51	51
Want-Ads	"	71	61	67	53	51	40	44	35	54
Arrests	"	54	51	62	61	64	59	53	65	58
Robberies	"	61	59	70	64	51	69	59	62	62
Murders	"	23	51	62	63	58	62	61	67	58
Editorials	Girls	56	64	66	60	59	56	61	58	60
Accidents	"	63	72	71	54	61	64	30	34	59
Arrests	"	43	71	54	61	49	62	71	61	59
Hold-Ups	"	51	64	61	56	57	47	59	66	58
Robberies	"	56	61	59	69	61	57	46	51	58
Murders	"	61	54	56	49	43	51	62	67	55

(The table reads as follows: 61 per cent of boys and 56 per cent of girls at ages 8-9 years do not like to read editorials, and so on for the whole table.)

Table XV Most Popular Choices in Things Found in the Newspaper Among Boys in Certain Grades. Totals and Ranks Indicated (The table is read in the same manner as Table V.)

Newspaper Items		G r a d e s							To- tals:	Rank
		: IV :	V	VI:	VII:	VIII:	IX:			
School News	Times Chosen	108	89	90	70	62	34	473		
	Special Choice	50	44	44	46	33	28	245		
	Per Cent	46	49	49	65	55	52	51	3	
Sports	Times Chosen	81	69	76	75	63	53	417		
	Special Choice	22	27	43	50	38	48	228		
	Per Cent	27	29	56	66	60	90	54	2	
Funny Section	Times Chosen	109	99	90	74	64	47	483		
	Special Choice	71	62	43	48	36	39	299		
	Per Cent	65	63	48	64	56	83	62	1	
Puzzles	Times Chosen	110	61	79	52	40	35	377		
	Special Choicen	53	34	21	16	9	10	143		
	Per Cent	48	55	26	31	23	28	38	4	

Table XVI Most Popular Choices in Things Found in the Newspaper Among Boys at Certain Ages. Totals and Ranks Indicated. (The table is read in the same manner as Table V except choices are indicated by ages rather than by grades.)

Newspaper Items		A g e s								To- tals	Rank
		9:	10:	11:	12:	13:	14:	15:	16-19:		
School News	Times Chosen	30	52	52	76	77	76	48	62	473	
	Special Choice	10	22	27	40	43	37	33	33	245	
	Per Cent	33	41	60	40	55	49	68	53	51	3
Sports	Times Chosen	18	43	43	59	71	75	46	62	417	
	Special Choice	3	21	16	28	41	45	31	43	228	
	Per Cent	16	42	37	45	58	60	67	69	54	2
Funny Section	Times Chosen	31	56	58	76	85	67	50	60	483	
	Special Choice	21	37	37	54	41	34	33	42	299	
	Per Cent	70	68	77	71	48	51	66	70	62	1
Puzzles	Times Chosen	31	33	47	53	72	61	41	39	377	
	Special Choice	15	22	26	17	24	12	10	17	143	
	Per Cent	48	66	54	32	33	20	25	43	38	4



first in grades IV and V, (see Table XV) second in grades VIII and IX and third in grades VI and VII. Sports and athletics rank second on the whole. However, it ranks first in grades VI, VII, VIII and IX, and fourth in grades IV and V. School news is third in general rank. It ranks second in grades VI and VII, third in grades IV, V, VIII and IX. Puzzles have a place among the preferred items of the newspaper. This class of items ranks second in grades IV and V, and fourth in other grades.

In the distribution by ages, Table XVI, the funny section is first at ages 9, 10, 11, 12, 16-19 years, second at age 14 years, and third at age 15 years. The item concerning sports and athletics leads at ages 13 and 14 years; second, at ages 12, 15 and 16-19 years; third, at age 10 years. School news ranks first at age 15 years; second, at 11 and 13 years; and third, at ages 9, 12, 14 and 16-19 years. For the group it is third. Puzzles rank second at ages 9 and 10 years; and third at 11 years.

The preferred items for girls are funny section, school news and stories. When considered by grades, the funny section ranks first in grades IV, V, VI, VII, and VIII. It is second in grade IX. School news is first in grade IX and second in grades V, VI, and VII; and third in grades IV and VIII. Stories rank third for all grades

on the whole. They are second in point of interest for girls in grades IV and VIII, and third in other grades. Table XVII indicates this.

In the distribution by ages it is seen that the funny section of the newspaper has much interest for girls as indicated in Table XVIII. It ranks first at ages 8, 9, 11, 12, and 14 years. It is second at ages 10, 13, and 15 years. At age 16 years it is third. School news ranks first at ages 10, 15, and 16 years; second at ages 8, 9, and 12 years; third at ages 11, 13, and 14 years. Stories rank first at age 13 years; second at ages 11, 14, and 16 years; third at ages 8, 9, 10, 12, and 15 years.

The books read and enjoyed by the pupils during the year numbered 894. Although pupils were asked to name two books, first and second choices, 59 pupils did not respond with any book. 1062 pupils named one book only, while 334 had two books to offer. Thus 1730 selections were made from the 894 different titles. Since less than a third of the pupils who reported books had a second choice to offer, the matter of choices, first and second, was disregarded and all the selections were counted together without regard to choice. Those pupils who offered a second favorite were not in large enough numbers to be

Table XVII Most Popular Choices in Things Found in the Newspaper Among Girls in Certain Grades. Totals and Rank of Choices Indicated. (The table is read and interpreted in the same manner as Table V.)

Newspaper Items		G r a d e s							To- tals	:Rank
		:IV:	V	: VI:	VII:	VIII:	IX:	X:		
School News	Times Chosen	111	129	116	108	76	73	613		
	Special Choice	49	92	76	69	51	50	389		
	Per Cent	42	73	66	64	67	70	63		2
Stories	Times Chosen	114	125	107	92	70	63	571		
	Special Choice	58	71	64	48	54	34	329		
	Per Cent	48	57	60	52	73	54	58		3
Funny Section	Times Chosen	107	127	111	102	79	69	595		
	Special Choice	58	92	84	74	60	42	409		
	Per Cent	54	74	75	70	76	61	69		1

Table XVIII Most Popular Choices in Things Found in the Newspaper Among Girls at Certain Ages. Totals and Rank of Choices Indicated. (The table is read and interpreted in the same manner as Table V. Choices by ages are indicated.)

Newspaper Items		A g e s									To- tals	Ra nk
		8-9:10:11: 12: 13: 14: 15:16										
School News	Times Chosen	40	65	68	109	105	104	77	45	613		
	Special Choice	23	46	40	72	60	57	55	36	389		
	Per Cent	57	71	60	66	58	55	71	80	63	2	
Stories	Times Chosen	50	58	76	93	89	96	70	39	571		
	Special Choice	22	34	57	45	58	58	39	16	329		
	Per Cent	44	57	75	47	65	60	57	73	58	3	
Funny Section	Times Chosen	41	59	72	103	99	104	76	42	595		
	Special Choice	29	40	54	75	64	73	49	25	409		
	Per Cent	71	67	76	72	64	70	65	59	69	1	

classified in any particular grade or age. They were found in all grades and ages, but the number was never great enough to effect changes in results.

It is impractical to report the titles of many books which seem to be popular at the different ages and in the different grades. Because so many different titles were reported, very few books are outstanding. This is evident. In Table XIX 705 titles occur only once, 94 occur two times each, etc. These numerous titles were classified into groups as it appears the most practical. The groups are Bible stories, biography travel, nature, adventure, how to make things, juvenile fiction, adult fiction, humour, information and miscellaneous.

Among stories classed as Bible stories, the Life Christ occurs 35 times. It is the most outstanding book of this group. The outstanding books in the class of biography are "Life of Booker T. Washington", "Life of Lincoln", each appearing 6 times, and the "Life of Paul Lawrence Dunbar", appearing 4 times. Under travel stories, "The Land of the Eskimo" appears 6 times. In the class of adventure stories, "Jack the Giant Killer", occurs 40 times; "Jack and the Bean Stalk", 38 times; "Robinson Crusoe", 26 times; "Robin Hood", 21 times; "Tarzan", 16 times; "Call of the Wild", 15 times; "Treasure Island" and "King

Table XIX. The Classes of Material in Books Read by Boys and Girls, the Number of Different Titles of Each Class, and the Number of Recurrences of the Same Title.

Classes of Material	Bible	Biography	Travel	Nature	How to Make	Adven- ture.	Juvenile Fiction	Adult Fiction	Humor	Informa- tion.	Miscolla- neous.	GRAND TOTAL
Different Titles	34	24	27	38	14	152	429	118	10	45	3	894
1	30	19	22	33	10	115	331	102	5	35	3	705
2	3	2	3	3	3	18	51	5	1	5		188
3		1		2		5	15	2	1	1		81
4		1			1	1	8	2		2		60
5						1	2					15
6		2	1			1	3		1			48
7						1	4	1				42
8							2	1		1		32
9						1	2	1	1			45
10						2	1	1				40
11						2	1					33
12							3	1				48
13							1					13
15						1	1					30
16						1	1					32
17							1					17
18								1				18
19										1		19
21						1						21
24							1					24
26						1						26
28							1					28
35	1											35
38						1						38
40						1						40
52									1			52
Total Selections	71	42	34	45	20	395	770	190	77	83	3	1730

Arthur", 11 times. "Grimm's Fairy Tales" occurs 28 times and "Black Beauty", 24 times in the class of juvenile fiction. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" is the outstanding book in the class of adult fiction, occurring 18 times. "Tom Sawyer" leads in humorous books. It appears 52 times while "Peck's Bad Boy" appears 9 times and "Huck Finn" appears 6 times. The Book of Knowledge appears 19 times in the class of information books. "United States History" appears 8 times.

In Tables XX and XXI is seen the distribution of the selections by grade and age respectively. More selections are reported from the class of adventure stories among boys than any other class. The largest number of selections made by girls is taken from the class of juvenile fiction. Juvenile fiction however is a close second among boys. Adult fiction has charm for girls in upper grades and at ages beginning at 12 years, while the few selections made by boys are most interesting in upper grades and at ages beginning at 13 years.

Selections made from the class of information stories indicate that boys read more widely in this field than girls. This appears to be true in the case of humorous stories also. There were 68 selections from the class of humorous stories reported by boys as con-

**Table XX. Types of Books Actually Read during Term. Number of Selections in Each Type Indicated and Arranged by Sex and Grade: Totals and Rank of Types Indicated.**

		To-								
Grades		: IV: V : VI:VII:VIII: IX:tals: Rank								
No. of	Boys	176	151	110	102	68	:	62:	669:	
Pupils	Girls	163	173	158	119	90	:	83:	786:	
Adult	B	2	6	4	14	14	13	53	5	
Fiction	G	5	2	7	32	44	47	137		2
Juvenile	B	102	97	49	26	5	3	282	2	
Fiction	G	137	133	127	57	18	16	488		1
Adventure	B	51	39	77	46	44	32	289	1	
	G	1	8	36	34	14	13	106		3
Bible	B	6	5	7	4	3	2	27	6	
	G	8	8	19	1	5	3	44		4
Biography	B	3	3	2	6	5	3	22	8	
	G	8	2	6	1	1	2	20		6.5
Information	B	5	11	18	10	3	7	54	4	
	G	3	3	15	3	2	3	29		5
How to Make	B	2	2	7	2	2	2	15	10	
	G		1	2	1	1		5		10
Nature	B	3	6	5	7	2	2	25	7	
	G	5	4	4	3	2	2	20		6.5
Travel	B	5	8	1		1	2	17	9	
	G	7	7	2		1		17		8
Humour	B	2	2	3	9	33	19	68	3	
	G	1	2	1	2	1	2	9		9
Miscellaneous	B	1					1	2	11	
	G				1			1		11

**Table XXI. Types of Books Actually Read During Term.**  
Number of Selections in Each Type Indicated and arranged by Sex and Age. Totals and Rank of Types Indicated.

Ages		:8-9:	10:	11:	12:	13:	14:	15:	16:	Totals:	Rank
No. of		Boys: 58:	72:	89:	114:	107:	110:	67:	72:	669	
Pupils		Girls: 53:	92:	116:	120:	140:	121:	90:	54:	786	
Types of Books.	Adult	B		3	1	10:	9:	16:	14:	53:	5
	Fiction	G	1	5	22	35	27	24	23	137	2
	Juvenile	B	59	51	41	47	24	37	12	282	2
	Fiction	G	88	82	109	59	61	52	15	488	1
	Adventure	B	21	36	26	35	43	38	46	289	1
		G		5	21	31	23	14	12	106	3
	Bible	B	5	6	1	5	4	1	3	27	6
		G	3	4	9	8	4	5	6	44	4
	Biography	B			3	3	1	7	3	22	8
		G	3	5	4	2	2	1	1	20	6.5
	Information	B		2	6	8	15	10	6	54	4
		G	1	3	2	3	5	7	5	29	5
	How to Make	B				7	2	2	2	15	10
		G				2	3			5	10
	Nature	B	2	3	3	7	3	5	1	25	7
		G	1	1		1	5	6	4	20	6.5
	Travel	B		5	3	4	3	2		17	9
		G	1	1	2	5	6	1	1	17	8
	Humour	B		4	7	13	16	10	9	68	3
		G			2	1		3	3	9	9
	Miscellaneous	B				1		1		2	11
		G							1	1	11
Total Selections.		B	87	107	93	130	122	121	99	95	854
		G	97	97	138	124	152	125	72	71	876



trusted with 9 selections made by girls.

Among the magazines reported there were 112 different titles. In Table XXII it is seen that 1620 selections were taken from these magazines. It is revealed that 849 pupils, 327 boys and 522 girls, are interested in reading magazines to the extent that they had one magazine to report for each pupil. Each of 252 others reported two magazines of special interest to them. Of all the pupils asked 102 had no magazines to report. Of these 79 are boys and 23 are girls.

These magazines were classified, according to the material found in them, into adult fiction, juvenile fiction, adventure, nature, pictures, woman's arts, science, current events, humour, romance, and miscellaneous.

Current events magazines are the most popular of magazine selections. One magazine of this class, Literary Digest, appears 330 times; another, Capper's Weekly, appears 69 times; and the Crisis, 12 times. Adult fiction has interest for both sexes. The leading magazine of this class is the Saturday Evening Post. It occurs 104 times, The Peoples Popular Monthly appears 59 times; Red Book, 52 times; American, 40 times; Journal-Post, 32 times and Cosmopolitan 16 times. Woman's Arts magazines hold interest for girls, but boys also find interest in them. The

Table XXII. The Classes of Material in Magazines Read by Boys and Girls, the number of Different Titles of Each Class, and the Number of Recurrences of the Same Title.

	Classes of Material	Audit Fiction	Juvenile Fiction	Adventure	Nature	Pictures	Woman Arts	Science	Current Events	Humor	Romance	Miscellaneous	
	Different Titles	23	12	14	9	3	14	9	8	6	7	7	112
Number of Recurrences.	1	8	4	4	3		2	1	3	1	3	2	31
	2	3	1	4	2		2	2	2	1		3	40
	3			2			2	1			1		18
	4	1	3	1	1					1		1	32
	5	2			1			1					20
	6	2			1								18
	7											1	7
	8			1			1	1					24
	9									2			18
	10	1						1					20
	11		1			1	1						33
	12								1	1			24
	13						2						26
	14					1							14
	15							1					15
	16	1	2								1		64
	18						1						18
	19							1					19
	21		1	1			1						63
	22				1								22
	25			1									25
	32	1											32
	35					1							35
	38										1		38
	40	1											40
	44						1						40
	52	1											52
	59	1											59
	69							1					69
	104	1											104
	120						1						120
	146										1		146
	330							1					330
Total	Selections	353	82	76	44	60	260	65	418	37	206	19	1620

Table XXIII. Types of Magazines Read and Enjoyed. Number of Selections Made in Each Type Indicated and Arranged by Sex and Grade. Totals and Rank of Types Indicated.

Grades		: IV: V : VI:VII:VIII: IX: To-							Tals:	Rank
No. of Pupils		Boys:176:151:110:102: 68 : 62: 669 :							Girls:163:173:158:110: 90 : 83: 786 :	
Types of Magazines	Adult	B	14:	40	32	27	12	31	156	2
	Fiction	G	26	36	53	34	30	18	197	2
	Juvenile	B	7	9	9	7	10	4	46	7
	Fiction	G	15	9	5	5	2		36	6
	Adventure	B	18	14	11	10	5	2	60	5
		G	4	3	5	2	1	1	16	8
	Nature	B	2	4	6	3	2	3	20	9
		G	2	6	10	4	1	1	24	7
	Pictures	B	1	2	3	4	3	1	14	10
		G	5	5	12	5	7	12	46	5
	Woman's	B	12	24	8	15	11	2	72	3
	Arts	G	24	37	46	31	24	23	188	3
	Science	B	1	2	7	9	13	25	57	6
		G	2	1	2		3		8	11
	Current	B	15	17	25	55	43	37	192	1
	Events	G	19	34	37	52	34	50	226	1
	Humour	B	2	5	3	4	5	5	24	8
		G	3				8	2	13	9
	Romance	B	10	10	10	9	11	13	63	4
		G	5	25	20	28	32	33	143	4
	Miscel-	B	1	2	1	1	4		9	11
	laneous	G	5		2	2	1		10	10
Total selec-		B	83	129	115	144	119	123	713	
tions.		G	113	156	192	163	143	140	907	

**Table XXIV. Types of Magazines Read and Enjoyed. Number of Selections Made in Each Type Indicated and Arranged by Sex and Age. Totals and Rank of Types Indicated.**

Ages		To-										Rank	
		8-9:	10:	11:	12:	13:	14:	15:	16:	Totals:			
No. of Pupils		Boys: 38:	72:	89:	114:	107:	110:	67:	72:	669:			
		Girls: 53:	92:	116:	120:	140:	121:	90:	54:	786:			
Types of Magazines.	Adult	B	5	18	17	27	30	28	11	20	156	2	
	Fiction	G	7	11	35	33	37	39	27	8	197		2
	Juvenile	B	4	1	5	13	9	4	5	5	46	7	
	Fiction	G	8		8	6	9	4	1		36		6
	Adventure	B	4	9	10	8	6	9	6	8	60	5	
		G	2	1	1	4	4	1	3		16		8
	Nature	B		2	2	2	3	5	4	2	20	9	
		G	2	3	4	3	3	4	2	3	24		7
	Pictures	B	1			5	1	3	3	1	14	10	
		G	5	3	3	8	8	7	8	4	46		5
	Woman's	B	3	8	16	16	10	14	2	3	72	3	
	Arts	G	10	11	29	31	37	35	27	12	188		3
	Science	B	2		5	6	9	7	14	16	57	6	
		G		1	1	1	2	3			8		11
	Current	B	6	8	11	20	37	42	32	36	192	1	
	Events	G	9	11	31	26	38	48	29	34	226		1
	Humour	B	2	1	4	4	4	1	4	4	24	8	
		G	3			1	3	3	2	1	13		9
	Romance	B	2	2	5	6	14	15	11	8	63	4	
		G	1	7	11	15	33	29	35	12	143		4
	Miscellaneous	B		1	2		4	2			9	11	
		G		1	3		1	2	2	1	10		10
Total		B	29	50	75	107	127	130	92	108	713		
Selections		G	47	49	126	128	175	175	132	75	907		

Table XXV      Ten Most Popular Magazines Arranged by  
Sex and Grade.    No. times chosen indicated.

176 Boys		GRADE IV		163 Girls	
	No.		No.		No.
Boy Scout.....	10	Ladies Home Journal.....	15		
Capper's Weekly.....	7	Saturday Evening Post.....	11		
Literary Digest.....	7	Capper's Weekly.....	11		
American.....	6	Literary Digest.....	7		
True Story.....	6	Peoples Popular Monthly	6		
Ladies Home Journal.....	6	Pictorial Review.....	5		
Boys and Girls.....	4	McCall.....	4		
Cow Boy.....	4	Household.....	4		
Red Book.....	4	Red Book.....	4		
Love Story.....	4	Journal Post.....	4		

151 Boys		GRADE V		173 Girls	
	No.		No.		No.
Ladies Home Journal.....	11	Literary Digest.....	21		
Journal Post.....	10	True Story.....	21		
Peoples Popular Monthly....	9	Ladies Home Journal.....	19		
Capper's Weekly.....	8	Journal Post.....	13		
Household Magazine.....	8	Household.....	9		
Literary Digest.....	7	Boys and Girls.....	9		
Saturday Evening Post.....	7	Capper's Weekly.....	8		
Red Book.....	6	Saturday Evening Post...	8		
True Story.....	5	Crisis.....	5		
Boy Scout.....	5	Delineator.....	4		

110 Boys		GRADE VI		158 Girls	
	No.		No.		No.
Literary Digest.....	19	Literary Digest.....	25		
Saturday Evening Post.....	14	Ladies Home Journal.....	21		
Peoples Popular Monthly....	7	Saturday Evening Post...	18		
American.....	6	True Story.....	15		
Western Story.....	7	Capper's Weekly.....	12		
Capper's Weekly.....	5	McCall.....	9		
Boys Life.....	4	Pictorial Review.....	9		
Popular Mechanics.....	4	Peoples Popular Monthly.	9		
Farm Life.....	4	Household.....	7		
Ladies Home Journal.....	4	Farm Life.....	7		

Table XXV (Continued)

102 Boys		GRADE VII		119 Girls	
	No.		No.		No.
Literary Digest.....	49	Literary Digest.....	50		
True Story.....	7	Ladies Home Journal.....	18		
Peoples Popular Monthly..	6	True Story.....	17		
American.....	5	Peoples Popular Monthly..	10		
Ladies Home Journal.....	5	Saturday Evening Post....	6		
Popular Science.....	4	Love Story.....	6		
Western Story.....	4	Capper's Weekly.....	5		
Pathfinder.....	4	Pictorial Review.....	4		
American Boy.....	3	Household.....	4		
Boys Life.....	3	Red Book.....	4		

68 Boys		GRADE VIII		90 Girls	
	No.		No.		No.
Literary Digest .....	30	Literary Digest.....	33		
True Story.....	7	True Story.....	20		
Capper's Weekly.....	6	Saturday Evening Post....	12		
Ladies Home Journal.....	6	Ladies Home Journal.....	12		
American.....	5	Red Book.....	7		
Boys Life.....	5	Pictorial Review.....	5		
Popular Mechanics.....	5	Romance.....	5		
American Boy.....	4	Woman's Home Companion...	4		
Science and Invention....	3	American.....	4		
Radio News.....	3	Delineator.....	3		

62 Boys		GRADE IX		83 Girls	
	No.		No.		No.
Literary Digest.....	40	Literary Digest.....	42		
Saturday Evening Post....	12	True Story.....	13		
Science and Invention....	11	Ladies Home Journal.....	11		
True Story.....	11	Saturday Evening Post...	9		
Popular Mechanics.....	6	Love Story.....	9		
Radio Age.....	5	Pictorial Review.....	4		
Red Book.....	5	American.....	4		
Boys Life.....	4	Motion Picture.....	4		
Capper's Weekly.....	4	Capper's Weekly.....	4		
Cosmopolitan.....	4	Cosmopolitan.....	3		

Table XXVI      Six Most Popular Magazines Arranged by Sex and Age.    No. Times Chosen Indicated.

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72 Boys.		AGE 10	92 Girls	
	No.			No.
Boy Scout.....	6	Literary Digest.....		7
Cappers Weekly.....	5	True Story.....		6
People's Popular Monthly.	5	Saturday Evening Post....		5
Household.....	5	Ladies' Home Journa.....		3
American.....	3	Woman's Home Companion...		3
Journal-Post.....	3	Pictorial Review.....		3

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89 Boys		AGE 11	116 Girls	
	No.			No.
Ladies' Home Journal.....	10	Literary Digest.....		18
Literary Digest .....	5	Ladies' Home Journal.....		14
Capper's Weekly.....	5	Capper's Weekly.....		12
People's Popular Monthly.	5	Saturday Evening Post....		10
Boy Scout.....	4	People's Popular Monthly.		10
American.....	4	True Story.....		8

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114 Boys		AGE 12	120 Girls	
	No.			No.
Literary Digest.....	12	Literary Digest.....		22
Saturday Evening Post....	7	Ladies' Home Journal.....		16
Ladies' Home Journal.....	7	Saturday Evening Post....		12
American.....	6	True Story.....		12
Capper's Weekly.....	6	Pictorial Review.....		7
People's Popular Monthly.	5	American.....		6

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107 Boys		AGE 13	140 Girls	
	No.			No.
Literary Digest.....	33	Literary Digest.....		31
Saturday Evening Post...	13	True Story.....		20
True Story.....	13	Saturday Evening Post....		13
American.....	6	Ladies Home Journal.....		11
Red Book.....	6	Red Book.....		7
Popular Mechanics.....	4	McCall.....		6

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Table XXVI (continued)

110 Boys		AGE 14	121 Girls	
	No.			No.
Literary Digest.....	36		Literary Digest.....	38
True Story.....	12		True Story.....	22
Ladies Home Journal.....	7		Ladies Home Journal.....	15
Peoples Popular Monthly...	6		Red Book.....	10
Saturday Evening Post.....	5		Capper's Weekly.....	9
Western Story.....	5		Saturday Evening Post.....	8

67 Boys		AGE 15	90 Girls	
	No.			No.
Literary Digest.....	26		Literary Digest.....	27
True Story.....	9		True Story.....	22
Capper's Weekly.....	6		Ladies Home Journal.....	15
Boys' Life.....	3		Saturday Evening Post.....	10
Saturday Evening Post....	3		Love Story.....	8
Western Story.....	3		American.....	4

72 Boys		AGE 16	54 Girls	
	No.			No.
Literary Digest.....	34		Literary Digest.....	28
Saturday Evening Post...	8		True Story.....	7
Popular Mechanics.....	6		Ladies Home Journal. ....	7
Western Story.....	6		Saturday Evening Post.....	4
True Story.....	5		Household.....	3
Boys' Life.....	4		Capper's Weekly. ....	3



Ladies Home Journal is the most popular in this group. It occurs 120 times. The Household occurs 44 times and the McCall occurs 21 times. Romantic literature has its charms and proves interesting to girls especially. The True Story is the most popular of this group. It was selected 146 times. The Love Story occurs 38 times, and True Romance occurs 16 times.

In Tables XXIII and XXIV is seen the distribution of selections of types of grades and ages respectfully.

The ten most popular magazines for each grade and the six most popular for each age level for both boys and girls are indicated in Tables XXV and XXVI respectively. It is seen that the Literary Digest is popular in all grades above grade V among boys and grade IV among girls. From age 12 years among boys and age 10 years among girls this magazine holds its popular place.

## VALIDITY OF RESULTS - SOURCES OF ERROR

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### Chapter III

Several sources of error are possible in the data collected in this manner: (a) Pupils are inclined to check items on the list without thinking seriously whether they like them or not. (b) Pupils are inclined to write down what they think the teacher wants them to write. (c) They are likely to be influenced by what others write or check. (d) They are greatly influenced by what the supplementary reading list contains for their grade. (e) There is a possibility of error in not understanding what is expected.

To verify the kinds of stories liked and disliked by pupils (a) a number of short stories, representative of the types indicated in Item VI was included in the questionnaire. These stories did not follow the order listed under Item VI, but were placed promiscuously as follows: Number I, an adventure story; II, Animals and their Habits; III, Funny Story; IV, Lives of Great People; V, Bedtime Story; VI, People of Other Lands; VII, How to Make Things; VIII, How Plants Live and Grow; IX, How to Make Things (boys); X, Sad Story; XI, Bible Story; XII, Myth or Fairy Story; XIII, Information Story.

The pupils were allowed to read these stories

after they had completed Item XI on the questionnaire. They read each story and identified it, and indicated whether they liked it or not.

Each pupil's paper was checked. The short stories were against the list in Item VI. For example, if a pupil indicated on the list under Item VI that he liked or did not like Bible Stories, his response was checked the Bible Story, Number IX, in the group of short stories. If the same response shown in the list was indicated for this short story, and the story identified as a Bible story, it was considered that there was agreement between the list and the group of stories. Again, if the pupil should designate a short story to be a kind different from what it was intended, and his reaction to it agreed with the response to that same kind in the list under Item VI, the two were considered as agreeing with each other.

Every paper was checked against itself in this manner. The papers ranged from zero in agreement, that is, no story agreeing with the list in any response, to perfect agreement, that is, every kind checked in the list and the reaction to it agreed with all the stories checked and the reactions to them. The number of instances of agreement in each paper was recorded.

A frequency distribution of these agreements was made for each age and grade for girls and boys separately and the median derived for each. These medians indicate how much of a tendency to agree there is between the list of kinds they say they like and the stories, representative of the kinds, they read. In Tables XXVII and XXVIII is set forth the central of agreement between the two responses in indicating their choices. It is seen that the median is higher as the grades go up and as the pupils become older. Agreement in the three best liked stories is indicated. These agreements will justify our belief that the pupils knew the kinds of stories that they read and were able to express a choice in the matter.

There appears a large number of titles. These titles range in quality from "Oklahoma Charlie", "Elsie Dinsmore", "Three Weeks", "Two Nights in a Bar Room", to "Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come", "Harvester", and "Great Women of the Bible" among books and from "True Confessions", and "True Romance", to "Woman's World" and "Literary Digest" among magazines. Certainly such a long list of titles with so few titles appearing a great number of times, and the quality of the material ranging from the very undesirable to the highly favored is indicative that the teacher's desires (b) is not a large factor in deter-

Table XXVII The Agreement Resulting in the Check of Short Stories Identified and Checked Against Choices Indicated in Item VI. Medians are Used to Indicate the Number of Choices Agreeing with List. Agreement of Three Best Liked Stories Indicated. Sex and Grades.

Grades	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX
Agreement in All Stories	B : 7.3	: 7.2	: 8.4	: 9.2	: 10.1	: 9.66
	G : 7.4	: 8.1	: 8.0	: 9.5	: 10.2	: 10.9
Agreement in Three Best Liked Stories	B : 1.75	: 1.8	: 1.94	: 2.3	: 2.2	: 2.6
	G : 1.74	: 1.93	: 2.1	: 1.19	: 2.33	: 2.09

(The table reads: that in grade IV out of 12 stories the reaction of boys to 7.3 of them and reaction of girls to 7.4 of the stories was the same responses given to the same kinds in Item VI, Questionnaire. The same is true for three best liked stories.

Table XXVIII Agreement by Sex and Ages.

Ages	8-9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Agreement in All Stories	B : 6.5	: 7.7	: 7.9	: 8.2	: 8.6	: 9.3	: 10.1	: 10.7
	G : 5.9	: 7.9	: 8.1	: 7.9	: 8.3	: 9.4	: 9.9	: 10.9
Agreement in Three Best Liked Stories	B : 1.45	: 1.9	: 1.8	: 1.98	: 2.2	: 2.54	: 2.6	: 2.72
	G : 1.59	: 1.87	: 1.93	: 2.01	: 2.4	: 2.61	: 2.8	: 2.95

(The table is read and interpreted in the same manner as Table XXVII except that agreement by ages rather than by grades is shown.)

mining choices. Again, the teacher was told just what to say to the pupils and care was taken to avoid giving any suggestions as to titles.

The influence of what some one else writes could affect the situation very little if at all. Pupils were encouraged to feel that their responses were as good as any that could be given. Then, too, each pupil worked alone and was not disturbed by his neighbor. This influence (c) is not sufficient to affect the results.

A very few of the titles appear on the supplementary reading lists for the different grades (d). However, in the case of magazines, the Literary Digest, which appears so often, is recommended and used in the schools, especially in grades VII, VIII, and IX. Certainly in this case its popularity may be due to the influence of the school situation.

In newspaper items the popularity of the funny section, and puzzles among boys, and funny section and stories among girls, is but another indication of the lack of the school influence as the schools are not encouraging the reading of the funny section, stories, and puzzles. Sports, School News, foreign news, civic news, news from other parts of the country, want-ads, advertisements, and editorials are encouraged by the schools. Hence, the sit-

uation may be influenced, but not too much, by the schools.

In the case of the negative reaction toward murders, robberies, hold-ups, arrests and accidents, these results are due perhaps to the influence of the schools. For a number of years teachers have set themselves to the task of discouraging the reading of these items by refusing to allow pupils to tell of the incidents as current events.

The questionnaire was tried sufficiently to insure it against ambiguity. The language of the pupils was used to make all directions simple. The teachers were given a set of directions that should guide them in every part of the exercise. The exercise was given to teachers in order that they should be familiar with the whole procedure. Possible questions were anticipated and answered to make sure that the pupils would thoroughly understand what was expected of them(e).

## C O N C L U S I O N S

### Chapter IV

1. Most boys and girls in the grades investigated enjoy reading. Less than 5 per cent have an indifferent attitude toward reading.
2. The marked interest shown in many kinds of literature, if properly directed and stimulated, may serve as a powerful motive in developing the finer tastes and appreciations for the highly desirable classes of literature. Boys reflect a large interest in Bible stories, funny stories, adventure stories, stories of how to make things, information stories, bedtime stories, sport items, school news and current events. Girls are interested in Bible stories, funny stories, fairy or myth stories, items of school news, juvenile and adult fiction, magazines of woman's arts and romance stories.
3. Such a wide range of interests indicates the probability that all pupils are not interested in the same degree, or in the same things. A challenge comes to the teacher to make use of that which is predominantly interesting to the pupil, however undesirable it may be, and lead him to an appreciation of something better in that class.



4. Although about 41 per cent of the pupils have library cards, there are yet too few of the pupils in these grades who are making use of the library facilities. A larger use of the library must be encouraged. It seems possible that reading clubs, current events clubs, junior debating societies, projects and socialized recitations would stimulate a larger use of the library.

## S U M M A R Y

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### Chapter V

It is seen that boys are interested in all types of stories except the sad story. But the best liked stories are the Bible story, the type which is of greatest interest at all grade levels and ages except at age 9 years; adventure; funny; how to make things; information; and bedtime, a type which has considerable popularity in the lower grades and early ages.

Among the newspaper items boys express a preference for the funny section, the most interesting feature at ages 9 to 12 years and grades IV and V; sports; school news; and puzzles, another attractive feature at ages 9 and 10 years and grades IV and V. Editorials are not read and a marked dislike is expressed for advertisements, want-ads, arrests, robberies and murders.

In the list of books actually read boys report more books of adventure than any other kind. Boys offered 289 books of this class of reading matter, about 34 per cent of the total number of books offered by boys. Juvenile fiction is a close second and books of humour is third. Books of information follow humour. Books of adult fiction, Bible stories, nature, biography, travel,

and how to make things, are few.

Many magazines are read by boys. The most popular of the magazines is the Literary Digest, a current events magazine. The current events magazines have greatest interest for the sex. Adult fiction ranks second and woman's arts third. Choices of magazines of romance, adventure, science, juvenile fiction, humour, nature, pictures and miscellaneous are few and each type represents less than 10 per cent of the total magazines chosen by boys. Girls have preference for Bible, humorous and juvenile fiction types of stories. Bible stories are most popular at all ages and grades. The funny story and bedtime story are popular at early ages and in lower grades. The sad story is not popular.

In the newspaper the funny section is the most attractive feature for grades IV to VIII inclusive, and at ages 8, 9, 11, 12, and 14 years. School news is interesting and ranks second among girls, while general newspaper stories rank third in point of interest. Editorials are not read and news of accidents, arrests, hold-ups, robberies and murders are decidedly unpopular.

The list of books given by girls shows that 56 per cent of the books are in the class of juvenile fiction and about 16 per cent are of adult fiction. Adventure ranks third, and Bible stories are fourth in popularity in

the list. Books of information, biography, nature, travel, humour, how to make things, and miscellaneous are few and comprise about 11 per cent of the total list.

Among magazines girls evince greatest interest in the current events type. Adult fiction ranks second. Woman's arts magazines are next in rank. Romance magazines have considerable interest for girls. The True Story magazine leads in this class.

Boys and girls do not show a marked difference in interest in what they read. Their choices are quite similar. However, in types and kinds of stories boys show greater interest in adventure than girls, and girls are more interested in juvenile fiction than boys.

Among items found in the newspaper boys are more interested in the sports and puzzles, while girls enjoy school news and stories more.

Boys show a greater preference for books of adventure, humour and information than girls. Girls are more inclined toward books of juvenile fiction and adult fiction.

Magazines are popular with both sexes but there are differences. Boys choose far more than girls those of adventure and science; while girls choose more often than boys, magazines of woman's arts, of pictures, and of romance.

A marked decrease in interest in nearly all types of stories and news items is seen among boys at age 13 years.

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## APPENDIX

KANSAS CITY KANSAS  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## THE SCRUGGS READING INTEREST QUIZ

**T**HIS is a reading quiz. It is an exercise to find out just what children like to read. Your teacher will tell you what to do. You must give careful attention and do as she tells you. You will enjoy everything she asks you to do.

- I. Your name is \_\_\_\_\_
- II. Boy or girl? \_\_\_\_\_ In what grade? \_\_\_\_\_
- III. Your age at your last birthday was \_\_\_\_\_  
Your next birthday will be \_\_\_\_\_, 192\_\_\_\_\_
- IV. What kind of work do your parents do? { Father \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother \_\_\_\_\_
- V. Do you like to read? \_\_\_\_\_ Have you a library card? \_\_\_\_\_



VI. Here is a list of many kinds of stories. (Check the kinds you like as directed.)

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | -----7. Adventure, war or battle |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | -----8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| -----3. People or others lands   | -----9. Bedtime story            |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story             |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story               |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story       |

VII. Go over the list again and place another check mark like this (✓) on the line in front of the numbers of the three kinds you like to read best of all the kinds. This will make two checks in front of these three kinds of stories.

VIII. Go over the list again and place a circle like this (○) on the line in front of the numbers of the kinds you do not like. If you like all of them do not put any circle there.

X. Write in the names of books you have read this school term that you really liked.

1. -----
2. -----

X. Write in the names of magazines you like to read this school term.

1. -----
2. -----

XI. Here is a list of things found in the newspaper that we read: (Check the things you read as directed.)

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| -----1. Headlines on front page        | -----10. Stories           |
| -----2. City citizenship news          | -----11. Funny section     |
| -----3. News from other parts of U. S. | -----12. Puzzles           |
| -----4. News from other countries      | -----13. Accidents         |
| -----5. Editorials                     | -----14. Arrests by police |
| -----6. School news                    | -----15. Hold-ups          |
| -----7. Advertisements                 | -----16. Robberies         |
| -----8. Want-ad section                | -----17. Murders           |
| -----9. Sports and athletics           |                            |

# SHORT STORIES

HERE is a number of short stories that you may read. You are asked to read all of them. Some you will like. You may not like all of them. After each story there is a list of the different kinds of stories. There is a blank line and number before each kind of story. When you have read the story, you are asked to tell what kind of a story it is by putting a check mark like this ✓ on the blank line before the kind you think it is. After this, you are asked to place a mark on the left side where it tells you to mark if you *like* the story, and you are asked to mark on the right side where it tells you to mark if you do *not* like the story.

## I

A dreadful piece of news had come to the village. The Indians were on the warpath. They had swooped down upon a nearby village, and the waters of the creek that ran through the village had run red with the awful blood-shed.

The Indian band was thirsting for blood and revenge. At that very moment they were stealing through the woods surrounding the village. Their faces were painted with war-paint, and their hearts were black with hatred for the settlers. No one saw them and no one dreamed of their nearness. That was the Indian way of giving battle. They always fell on the settlement when no one expected them, and when everyone was unprepared to fight them.

The unsuspecting men and women and the children had walked to church this Sunday through the woods. Nothing happened on the way. Very proper and still sat the congregation while the preacher preached. He had preached one hour of the usual three hour sermon when the door of the church burst open and the still air was filled with dreadful noise and cries Indians! Indians!

A woman rushed in, her dress in disorder, her hair hanging down and red blood was dripping from her shoulders where she had been wounded with an arrow. She came to give the alarm. The Indians had crept up and set the houses of the village on fire while the people were at church. Now from the cover of the buildings they were beginning the attack. Shrieks of war filled the air. The firing of guns, the pattering of arrows, and the horrible clamor of Indian warfare was upon them. Babies screamed, children cried. But the settlers were brave men. They dared. They risked their lives for their families and their homes. They snatched up their guns. They had the women and children stay inside the church building. Out they went and threw themselves behind trees

and fallen logs. They fought till every Indian had vanished from the scene. The savages fled in disorder before the fire of the settlers. They were not able to carry away their dead.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ----- 1. Bible story              | ----- 7. Adventure, war or battle |
| ----- 2. Lives of great people    | ----- 8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| ----- 3. People of other lands    | ----- 9. Bed time story           |
| ----- 4. Animals and their habits | ----- 10. Funny story             |
| ----- 5. How plants live and grow | ----- 11. Sad story               |
| ----- 6. How to make things       | ----- 12. Information story       |
- If you like this story mark X here -----      If you do not like this story mark X here -----

## II

Deer are timid animals. When danger is near they depend upon their swiftness of foot. For this reason they are always on the alert. Three of their senses, hearing, seeing and smelling, are well developed. Their ears are placed on the side of the head and turn backwards. They are sure to hear the slightest sound of approaching footsteps. Their large black eyes detect every movement in sight. It is impossible to approach them from the windward side, as their keen sense of smell quickly warns them of the presence of an enemy. When a number of deer are together, one or more of them act as sentinels. They hold their heads up high, sniff the air and look in all directions.

One of the most interesting things about the deer family is their horns. Only the males have them, and they shed them once a year. About the time the trees begin to bud the horns begin to grow. At first a small bony knob, covered with velvety skin, appears on each side of the forehead. When this knob is a few inches long it divides into two parts and forms the first branch. Then it grows on, adding branches until the antlers are well grown which is about the end of August. In December the antlers fall off and the skin grows over the scar.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ----- 1. Bible story              | ----- 7. Adventure, war or battle |
| ----- 2. Lives of great people    | ----- 8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| ----- 3. People of other lands    | ----- 9. Bed time story           |
| ----- 4. Animals and their habits | ----- 10. Funny story             |
| ----- 5. How plants live and grow | ----- 11. Sad story               |
| ----- 6. How to make things       | ----- 12. Information story       |
- IF YOU LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE -----      IF YOU DO NOT LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE -----

### III.

In school Johnny was reciting during a geography class. The teacher was asking for the principal products of a sheep-raising country. Johnny was called upon to recite but could not answer that question. To help him out the teacher asked if his trousers were made of silk, wool, linen, or cotton. "Why, they aren't made of any of those things," Johnny told her Mamma made them from dad's old pants."

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | -----7. Adventure, war or battle |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | -----8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| -----3. People of other lands    | -----9. Bed time story           |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story             |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story               |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story       |

IF YOU LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE.....

IF YOU DO NOT LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE.....

### IV

In 1761 a Negro girl was sold in the slave market of Boston to Mr. John Wheatly. Her mistress gave her the name of Phyllis and she was afterward known as Phyllis Wheatly. She was eight years old at the time she was sold into slavery. Her appearance was so impressive that her mistress had decided to teach her to read. She was a very apt pupil and later became a good English student. Languages appealed to her. She studied Latin and later translated the most difficult Latin books into English.

At the age of twenty she was set free and her mistress sent her on a trip to England. She had already published a little book of poems. She became known then as the African Poetess. These poems were published in England also. Her talents, her modest manner, and her ability to talk well in conversation with others, made her a favorite with those who were far above her.

She died in 1784, before she was thirty-one years old. She had risen from a mere slave girl and had become a very noted woman and a poetess of distinction. Great men of literature and culture had recognized her ability and she is remembered now as our first Negro poetess.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | -----7. Adventure, war or battle |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | -----8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| -----3. People of other lands    | -----9. Bedtime story            |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story             |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story               |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story       |

If you like this story mark X here.....

If you do not like this story mark X here.....

## V

Mr. Gray Donkey dressed himself in Mr. Red Lion's coat one fine day and went about the woods frightening all the little animals with his roaring. After a while he met Mr. Wise Owl and tried to scare him the same way. But Mr. Wise Owl was too wise for that. He called out to Mr. Gray Donkey, "You silly creature, I might have been frightened if I had not heard your voice and seen your long ears sticking out from under Mr. Red Lion's coat."

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | -----7. Adventure, war or battle |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | -----8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| -----3. People of other lands    | -----9. Bedtime story            |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story             |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story               |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story       |

IF YOU LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE-----

IF YOU DO NOT LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE-----

## VI

Among the several races found by the first white settlers on the South African soil was a race known as the Hottentots. They were much superior to the other races. They occupied the soil long before the advent of the white man.

The Hottentots lived in little villages, each having its own chief. They depended upon the milk of the cows and goats for food; for they did not practice farming. They had horned cattle, lean and bony, and sheep covered with hair in place of wool. These sheep had fatty tails. With the exception of the dog these were the only animals that they had. The men were always idle. Their only work was to move to another place when the pasture for their cattle gave out in one place. If the supply of milk became short the women would gather bulbs and roots for food. These people lived in huts made from wooden frames covered over with matting. These could be easily torn down when they had to move to another place. They could be set up very easily.

A Hottentot camp in the clear moonlight, with men, women and children dancing to the music of reed instruments was a scene of highest enjoyment.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | -----7. Adventure, war or battle |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | -----8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| -----3. People of other lands    | -----9. Bed time story           |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story             |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story               |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story       |

If you like this story mark X here-----

If you do not like this story mark X here-----

## VII

Pretty nut cups or bon-bon dishes may be made from popcorn. Make a syrup of sugar and water and let it boil until quite thick. Use enough syrup to hold the popcorn together, and stir in well. When cool enough to handle shape them over a buttered form, using any shape you may desire. Handles may be made by running fine wire through the popcorn kernels and fastening to each side of the cups. If you color the syrup the baskets will be more attractive.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | -----7. Adventure, war or b |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | -----8. Myth or fairy tale  |
| -----3. People of other lands    | -----9. Bed time story      |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story        |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story          |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story  |

you like this story mark X here-----

If you do not like this story mark X here-----

## VIII

Corn is often called maize. It is planted in little hills about three and a half feet apart. Three or four kernels are put in a hill. A well planted field of corn shows the rows in four directions.

Corn also belongs to the grass family. It has long narrow leaves. The lower ends of the leaves form a sheath around the stalk at the joints.

The flower is in two parts. One part is at the top of the stalk called the tassel, and the other part is the fine silky hairs we see at the end of the ear.

The ears grow on a short stem near the middle of the stalk. Some stalks have more than one ear. There are many kinds of corn. Some of it grows small like the popcorn, and some grows more than twelve feet high and has large ears, such as the field corn.

When corn is ripe the husks are stripped back and the ears are broken from the stem. It is then useful to man in a great many ways. He feeds himself and his animals upon it.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | -----7. Adventure, war or batt |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | -----8. Myths or fairy tale    |
| -----3. People of other lands    | -----9. Bedtime story          |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story           |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story             |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story     |

If you like this story mark X here-----

If you do not like this story mark X here-----

## IX

Hunting with the sling shot is well known among boys. Using an arrow shot is a better sport, especially when you make it all, including the arrow, yourself.

Take a shingle which will of course be thicker at one end than the other and cut off a strip about four inches wide for the arrow. At the thin end cut the arrow tail. The thicker end should be made to a point for the head of the arrow. Balance the arrow on your finger. At the place where it balances cut a notch.

Make the sling like any ordinary sling-shot, using a piece of wood five or six inches long for the handle, with two or three inches of string connecting the inch wide rubber band. On the opposite end of the band is three inches more of string finished with a knot.

To shoot the arrow put the knot in the notch, pull back and let it fly.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | -----7. Adventure, war or battle |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | -----8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| -----3. People of other lands    | -----9. Bed time story           |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story             |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story               |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story       |

IF YOU LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE.....

IF YOU DO NOT LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE.....

## X

It was terribly cold. It snowed and was almost dark. Evening came on, the last evening of the year. In the cold and gloom a poor little girl, bareheaded and barefoot, was walking through the streets. In an old apron she carried a number of matches in a bundle in her hand. No one had bought any matches from her that day and no one had given her a penny.

Shivering with cold and hunger she crept along, poor little girl! The snowflakes covered her long fair hair which fell in curls over her neck. In all the windows the lights were shining, and there was a glorious smell of roast goose, for it was New Year's Eve. She thought of that.

In a corner formed by two houses she sat down. She had drawn up her set, but she was still colder. She did not dare to go home for she had no matches and had no money to take. From her father she would surely receive a beating. Then too, it was cold at home. They had nothing over them but a roof through which the wind whistled. Her little hands

were benumbed with cold. She thought that if she could light the matches she might get warm. She scratched one against the wall. The wind blew it out. She scratched all of her matches but the wind was so cold now that she could not get warm. She got colder and colder. Night came quickly, the wind howled. In the corner, leaning against the wall, sat the poor little girl with red cheeks and smiling mouth, frozen to death on the last night of the old year.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | -----7. Adventure, war or battle |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | -----8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| -----3. People of other lands    | -----9. Bedtime story            |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story             |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story               |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story       |

If you like this story mark X here-----

If you do not like this story mark X here-----

## XI

One day there were many people standing about Jesus, listening to the words that He spoke, when, a little outside of the crowd, some women and children gathered. Some of the women carried babies, others held little ones by the hand, while boys and girls ran behind them, clinging to their skirts. Through the crowd they all pressed until they reached Jesus.

Then the mothers, bringing their children to Him, asked Him to bless them, to put His hands upon their heads and pray for them. There were so many of them, babies and children, all pressing close to Jesus, that His friends stopped the mothers and told the children to run away. But when Jesus saw that, He was displeased and said, "Suffer little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not, for such is the Kingdom of Heaven." He not only let them come to Him, but He took the babies up in His arms and laid His hands on the heads of the children and blessed them all.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | -----7. Adventure, war or battle |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | -----8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| -----3. People of other lands    | -----9. Bedtime story            |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story             |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story               |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story       |

If you like this story mark X here-----

If you do not like this story mark X here-----



## XII

One day Odin, and two other gods were walking near the seashore. They were talking, as they walked, of the beautiful world they had made, and were grieved that there were no people to enjoy it. All at once Odin, the giant fairy god, saw two shapely trees, an ash and an elm tree. "From these," he declared, "I shall make beautiful men and women to live in this beautiful world we have made. They will enjoy its warmth drink its waters, make its soil bear food. They shall greet us whenever we come down to the earth." With his great hands he made men of the ash tree, and women from the elm tree. Then the gods were satisfied and they went away.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | ----- 7. Adventure, war or battle |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | ----- 8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| -----3. People of other lands    | ----- 9. Bedtime story            |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story              |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story                |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story        |

IF YOU LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE.....

IF YOU DO NOT LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE.....

## XIII

The sun is not solid as near as we can tell. It seems to be a mass of white, hot mist, and is able to shine because of its own light, which the planets and stars cannot do. They are able to shine only by the sun's light.

The sun's average distance from the earth is 91 million five hundred thousand miles. The sun is about one million two hundred fifty-three thousand times as large as the earth, but it weighs only about one-fourth as much as the earth.

The light of the sun is as great as if there were five thousand five hundred sixty-three candles burning at the same time held one foot from the eye. The amount of heat given off by the sun would melt a layer of ice 38 yards thick covering the whole earth.

Check the kind of story you think this is:

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| -----1. Bible story              | ----- 7. Adventure, war or battle |
| -----2. Lives of great people    | ----- 8. Myth or fairy tale       |
| -----3. People of other lands    | ----- 9. Bedtime story            |
| -----4. Animals and their habits | -----10. Funny story              |
| -----5. How plants live and grow | -----11. Sad story                |
| -----6. How to make things       | -----12. Information story        |

IF YOU LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE.....

IF YOU DO NOT LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE.....

**You must now go back over the stories that you have read and put a circle around the numbers of three kinds that you like best of all the stories you have read in this exercise.**

**When you have done this take your paper to your teacher that she may see whether you have missed anything.**

**It is hoped that you have enjoyed this exercise to-day.**

## THE SCRUGGS READING INTEREST QUIZ

The function of this exercise is to reveal the types of reading matter children enjoy reading when left alone to choose for themselves. Their natural interests in reading may find satiety in kinds of stories not found in our class rooms. It will be interesting to know just what they enjoy reading.

### General Directions For Giving The Exercise

No time limits are given for completing the questions. They are given as much time as is necessary.

This exercise is not to be graded or scored by the teacher. Nothing is scored against the child and no rewards will be given for its responses. You are asked to stress this point and make the children feel that whatever answer they give is acceptable so long as it is true. They are not to be embarrassed by marks against them and they are not to be encouraged by any rewards.

Ask the pupils to clear off their desks and note that each one has a sharpened pencil. Pens and ink need not be used.

Distribute the booklets, placing one on the desk of each pupil. You may allow two or three pupils to distribute the booklets for you. The pupils are not to begin work until they are told.

### Directions To Pupils

The following directions are to be read aloud to the pupils. Before you can do this effectively it will be necessary for you to become familiar with the whole exercise. Read the LARGE PRINT to the pupils. Let your reading be as though you were speaking to the pupils and not reading.

(Read) .... AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS EXERCISE IT READS: THIS IS A READING QUIZ. IT IS AN EXERCISE TO FIND OUT JUST WHAT CHILDREN LIKE TO READ. YOUR TEACHER WILL TELL YOU WHAT TO DO. YOU MUST GIVE CAREFUL ATTENTION AND DO AS SHE TELLS YOU. YOU WILL ENJOY EVERYTHING SHE ASKS YOU TO DO..... (Read on).... YOU ARE ASKED TO ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS WHICH YOU FIND IN THIS LITTLE BOOK. PLEASE ANSWER ALL THAT YOU CAN. TAKE YOUR TIME AND THINK CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU ATTEMPT TO ANSWER. YOU ARE FREE TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS IN YOUR OWN WAY. YOUR ANSWERS ARE NOT TO BE GRADED. THESE BOOKLETS WILL BE SENT TO MR. SCRUGGS. A LITTLE LATER HE WILL LET US KNOW WHAT THE BOYS AND GIRLS OF KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, REALLY LIKE TO READ. HE WILL NOT TELL US WHAT ANY PARTICULAR PUPIL READS. HE DOES NOT CARE WHAT YOU READ. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT YOU LIKE TO READ. YOU ARE ASKED TO SAY JUST WHAT YOU KNOW TO BE TRUE WITHOUT FEAR OF MARKS AGAINST YOU. ~~SEE~~ JUST WHAT YOU WANT TO, JUST SO IT IS TRUE.

YOU MAY NOW FILL THE BLANKS. ITEM NUMBER ONE.... YOUR NAME IS WHAT? WRITE IT DOWN QUICKLY... (Pause until they get the different items written)... ITEM NUMBER TWO. ARE YOU A BOY OR GIRL? WRITE DOWN QUICKLY WHICH YOU ARE.... YOU ARE IN WHAT GRADE?. WRITE DOWN THE GRADE QUICKLY. ....ITEM NUMBER THREE. YOUR AGE AT YOUR LAST BIRTHDAY WAS WHAT?. REMEMBER, THIS MEANS YOUR AGE RIGHT NOW. NOT WHAT IT WILL BE AT YOUR NEXT BIRTHDAY. WRITE IT DOWN. ....YOUR NEXT BIRTHDAY WILL BE WHEN? WRITE DOWN THE MONTH AND DAY ON WHICH YOUR BIRTHDAY COMES. ....ITEM, NUMBER FOUR. IN WRITING DOWN THE KIND OF WORK YOUR PARENTS DO, BE SURE TO WRITE WHAT BOTH OF THEM DO. IF YOU HAVE NO FATHER, TELL WHAT YOUR MOTHER DOES. IF YOU HAVE NEITHER FATHER NOR MOTHER TELL WHAT THE PEOPLE DO THAT YOU LIVE WITH..... ITEM NUMBER FIVE. IF YOU LIKE TO READ, WRITE, YES..... IF YOU DO NOT LIKE TO READ, WRITE, NO. .... IF YOU HAVE A LIBRARY CARD, WRITE, YES..... IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LIBRARY CARD, WRITE, NO.

(Before beginning on the next page let every one be ready to follow you.)..... TURN THE PAGE, BUT DO NOT BEGIN ANY WORK UNTIL I TELL YOU.

ITEM NUMBER SIX. HERE IS A LIST OF MANY KINDS OF STORIES. LET US LOOK THEM OVER TOGETHER..... NUMBER ONE. BIBLE STORY. BIBLE STORIES ARE STORIES TAKEN FROM THE HOLY BIBLE. (Pause a few moments after each kind is given but do not mention the names of any books or stories which are representative of the kinds of stories that are being named). ,.....NUMBER TWO. LIVES OF GREAT PEOPLE ARE STORIES WHICH TELL OF THE BIRTH AND LIVES OF PEOPLE, MEN OR WOMEN, WHO HAVE DONE GREAT THINGS IN THE WORLD.....NUMBER THREE. PEOPLE OF OTHER LANDS ARE STORIES OF PEOPLE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, HOW THEY LOOK, WHAT THEY WEAR, AND HOW THEY LIVE AND WORK.....NUMBER FOUR. ANIMALS AND THEIR HABITS ARE STORIES ABOUT ANIMALS OF ANY KIND, HOW THEY LOOK, WHERE THEY LIVE, HOW THEY ACT, WHAT THEY EAT AND OTHER INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT THEM. ....NUMBER FIVE. HOW PLANTS LIVE AND GROW ARE STORIES ABOUT TREES, SHRUBS, FLOWERS, FARM CROPS, AND PLANTS ANY WHERE, HOW THEY GROW, HOW THEY ARE PLANTED, THEIR USES TO US AND ANYTHING ABOUT THEM WHICH WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO US. .... NUMBER SIX. HOW TO MAKE THINGS. THIS IS A STORY WHICH TELLS US HOW THINGS ARE MADE AND HOW WE MAY MAKE THEM IF WE WISH TO.....NUMBER SEVEN. ADVENTURE, WAR OR BATTLE STORY IS A STORY WHICH TELLS US HOW SOME PERSONS DO BRAVE DEEDS, HOW THEY DARE AND RISK THEIR LIVES. SOMETIMES THEY BECOME GREAT HEROES, AND SOMETIMES THEY ARE NOT SUCCESSFUL..... NUMBER EIGHT...MYTH OR FAIRY TALE IS A STORY WHICH TELLS US OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE GREAT POWER. THEY ARE ABLE TO DO MYSTERIOUS THINGS AS IF BY MAGIC POWER. THEY DO THINGS WHICH ARE VERY UNUSUAL. NUMBER NINE.... BEDTIME STORY. THE BEDTIME STORY IS USUALLY A STORY OF LITTLE ANIMALS. THEY DO THINGS AND SAY FUNNY THINGS. THE STORY IS USUALLY TOLD AT BED TIME. ....NUMBER TEN. FUNNY STORY. THE FUNNY STORY IS ONE WHICH AMUSES US OR MAKES US LAUGH AT THE THINGS IT TELLS US.....NUMBER ELEVEN. SAD STORY. THE SAD STORY IS A STORY WHICH MAKES US UNHAPPY AND SORROWFUL. SOMETIMES THEY ARE SO SAD THAT WE CRY.....NUMBER TWELVE. INFORMATION STORY. THE INFORMATION STORY TELLS US ABOUT THINGS AROUND US. WE OFTEN GET SUCH STORIES FROM THE BOOKS OF KNOWLEDGE, ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND THE LIKE. INFORMATION STORIES OFTEN TELL US OF THINGS THAT HAVE HAPPENED IN THE PAST. WE CALL THEM HISTORY STORIES SOMETIMES.

NOTICE THAT THERE IS A BLANK LINE AND NUMBER BEFORE EACH OF THE KINDS OF STORIES. GO OVER THE LIST AND PLACE A CHECK MARK LIKE THIS (✓) (Make one on the blackboard) ON THE BLANK LINE IN FRONT OF THE NUMBER OF EACH KIND THAT YOU LIKE TO READ. YOU MAY LIKE MORE THAN ONE KIND. CHECK ALL THAT YOU LIKE TO READ. IF YOU DO NOT LIKE ANY DO NOT PUT ANY THING DOWN. DO NOT LOOK TO SEE WHAT SOME ONE ELSE CHECKS. YOURS IS AS GOOD AS HIS. YOU MAY NOW CHECK THE KINDS OF STORIES YOU LIKE. WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED WAIT FOR THE NEXT DIRECTIONS. (Wait until all are ready to follow you before giving the next directions.)

ITEM NUMBER SEVEN. YOU ARE TOLD TO - GO OVER THE LIST AGAIN AND PLACE ANOTHER CHECK MARK LIKE THIS (✓) (Refer to the one on the board) ON THE LINE IN FRONT OF THE NUMBERS OF THREE KINDS YOU LIKE TO READ BEST OF ALL THE KINDS. THIS WILL MAKE TWO CHECK MARKS ON THE BLANK LINES BEFORE THREE KINDS OF STORIES. YOU MAY NOW CHECK YOUR STORIES. WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED WAIT FOR THE NEXT DIRECTIONS. (Wait until all are ready to follow you before giving the next directions.)

ITEM NUMBER EIGHT. YOU ARE TOLD TO - GO OVER THE LIST AGAIN AND PLACE A CIRCLE LIKE THIS (○) (Make one on the blackboard) ON THE LINE IN FRONT OF THE NUMBERS OF THE KINDS YOU DO NOT LIKE. IF YOU LIKE ALL OF THEM DO NOT PUT ANY CIRCLE THERE. REMEMBER, YOU ARE TO PUT A CIRCLE ON THE LINE IN FRONT OF THE NUMBERS OF THE KINDS YOU DO NOT LIKE. YOU MAY NOW PLACE YOUR CIRCLES. WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED THAT WAIT FOR THE NEXT DIRECTIONS. (Wait until all are ready to follow you before taking up the next item.)

ITEM NUMBER NINE. YOU ARE TOLD TO - WRITE IN THE NAMES OF BOOKS YOU HAVE READ THIS SCHOOL TERM THAT YOU REALLY LIKED. FIRST, THINK OF ALL THE BOOKS YOU HAVE READ SINCE THE BEGINNING OF SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER. ISN'T THERE ONE THAT YOU ENJOYED MORE THAN THE OTHERS? YOU MAY HAVE FOUND THIS STORY IN THE LIBRARY UP TOWN, AT SCHOOL, AT HOME, AT YOUR NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE, OR ANY PLACE. IT DOES NOT MATTER WHERE YOU GOT IT. IF YOU ENJOYED READING IT MORE THAN ANY OTHER BOOK YOU HAVE READ THIS SCHOOL TERM, WRITE THE NAME OF IT DOWN ON THE FIRST LINE. IF YOU CAN NOT SPELL THE NAME OF YOUR BOOK COME TO ME AND I WILL TELL YOU HOW TO SPELL IT. YOU MAY NOW WRITE THE NAME OF YOUR BOOK ON THE LINE MARKED NUMBER ONE. (Pause at this point and let them write the book title down.) .....YOU MAY HAVE READ ANOTHER BOOK THAT YOU LIKED ALMOST AS WELL AS YOU DID THE FIRST ONE. YOU MAY WRITE THE NAME OF IT ON LINE NUMBER TWO. WHEN YOU HAVE DONE THIS WAIT FOR THE NEXT DIRECTIONS.

ITEM NUMBER TEN. YOU KNOW WHAT MAGAZINES ARE. MAGAZINES ARE USUALLY PAPER BACK BOOKS THAT MAY BE BOUGHT FROM THE NEWSSTANDS. SOME ARE FOUND IN THE LIBRARY. SOME ARE PRINTED EACH WEEK, AND SOME ARE PRINTED NEW EACH MONTH. THEY HAVE MANY STORIES IN THEM THAT ARE INTERESTING TO US. (Be sure not to mention the name of any magazine to the pupils.) YOU ARE TOLD TO - WRITE IN THE NAMES OF MAGAZINES YOU LIKE TO READ THIS SCHOOL TERM. WRITE THE NAME OF YOUR FAVORITE MAGAZINE ON LINE NUMBER ONE. (Pause until they get it written then read on.) THERE MAY BE ANOTHER MAGAZINE THAT YOU LIKE TO READ ALMOST AS WELL AS THE FIRST ONE. WRITE THE NAME OF IT ON THE LINE MARKED NUMBER TWO. IF YOU DO NOT READ A SECOND ONE YOU NEED NOT PUT ANY THING ON LINE NUMBER TWO. YOU MAY WRITE THE NAME OF THE SECOND MAGAZINE NOW. WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED WAIT FOR DIRECTIONS. (Pause until all are ready to go on.)

ITEM NUMBER ELEVEN. HERE IS A LIST OF THINGS FOUND IN THE NEWSPAPER THAT WE READ. (Read slowly enough for the pupils to get every word that you say.) LET US GO OVER THE LIST OF THESE THINGS. .... NUMBER ONE. HEADLINES ON FRONT PAGE ARE THE LARGE PRINTED LINES USED AS THE SUBJECT OF A BIT OF NEWS. SOMETIMES THE PRINT IS LARGE AND BLACK. SOMETIMES IT IS RED. DOWN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PAGE IT IS SMALLER PRINT AND USUALLY QUITE HEAVY AND BLACK. NUMBER TWO. CITY CITIZENSHIP NEWS TELLS US ABOUT THE IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR CITY NECESSARY TO MAKE IT A BETTER PLACE FOR THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN IT. NUMBER THREE. NEWS FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES ARE THE THINGS THAT HAPPEN IN THE CITIES IN THE OTHER PARTS OF OUR COUNTRY..... NUMBER FOUR. NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES TELLS US ABOUT THE THINGS THE PEOPLE OF OTHER COUNTRIES ARE DOING.....NUMBER FIVE. EDITORIALS ARE NEWS ITEMS WHICH TELL US WHAT THE WRITER OF THE NEWSPAPER THINKS ABOUT THE CONDITION OF THINGS AROUND US. .... NUMBER SIX. SCHOOL NEWS IS NEWS ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS AND THE PERSONS WHO ARE IN OUR SCHOOLS..... NUMBER SEVEN. ADVERTISEMENTS ARE THE NOTICES FOUND IN THE PAPERS WHICH TELL US OF THINGS TO TAKE-PLACE AND OF THE SALES WHERE WE MAY BUY THINGS. ... NUMBER EIGHT. WANT AD SECTIONS ARE USUALLY FOUND IN THE BACK PART OF THE PAPER. THEY ARE IN VERY FINE PRINT. THEY GIVE US NEWS ABOUT PROPERTY, HOUSES AND LOTS, FOR RENT OR FOR SALE; HELP WANTED; LOST AND FOUND ARTICLES, ETC.....NUMBER NINE. SPORTS AND ATHLETICS ARE THE NEWS ITEMS WHICH TELL US ABOUT THE GAMES AND MATCHES THAT PEOPLE ENJOY PLAYING.....NUMBER TEN. STORIES SUCH AS YOU READ IN YOUR MAGAZINES AND BOOKS ARE OFTEN FOUND IN THE NEWSPAPER.....NUMBER ELEVEN. THE FUNNY PICTURE SECTION IS FOUND IN MOST EVERY SUNDAY PAPER, AND SOME PAPERS HAVE FUNNY PICTURES EVERY DAY.....NUMBER TWELVE. PUZZLES ARE FOUND QUITE OFTEN IN THE PAPER. THEY GIVE US A LOT OF FUN TRYING TO WORK THEM.....NUMBER THIRTEEN. ACCIDENTS HAPPEN SOMEWHERE IN OUR TOWN ALMOST EVERYDAY..... NUMBER FOURTEEN. ARRESTS BY POLICE TAKE PLACE WHENEVER SOME ONE DISOBEYS THE LAW.....NUMBER FIFTEEN. HOLD-UPS TAKE PLACE IN OUR CITY VERY OFTEN. THE BANKS LOSE LARGE SUMS OF MONEY MANY TIMES. MONEY AND JEWELRY ARE OFTEN TAKEN FROM PEOPLE AS THEY PASS ALONG THE STREETS..... NUMBER SIXTEEN. ROBBERIES HAPPEN VERY OFTEN ON SATURDAYS WHEN BUSINESS MEN GO TO THE BANKS TO GET MONEY TO PAY THEIR WORKMEN.....NUMBER SEVENTEEN. MURDERS MEAN THAT SOME ONE TAKES THE LIFE OF ANOTHER.....

IF YOU DO NOT READ THE NEWSPAPERS DO NOT DO ANYTHING TO THE LIST. YOU WILL NOTICE THAT THERE IS A BLANK LINE AND A NUMBER BEFORE EACH THING. YOU ARE TO GO OVER THE LIST CAREFULLY AND PICK OUT THE THINGS YOU LIKE TO READ, AND PLACE A CHECK MARK LIKE THIS (✓) (Refer to the one already on the board) ON THE LINE IN FRONT OF THE NUMBERS OF THE THINGS YOU LIKE TO READ. YOU MAY DO THIS NOW. WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED WAIT FOR NEXT DIRECTIONS. (Wait until all are ready to follow you before giving the next directions).

NOW GO OVER THE LIST AGAIN AND PICK THE THREE THINGS YOU LIKE TO READ BETTER THAN ANYTHING ELSE IN THE NEWS PAPER. PLACE ANOTHER CHECK MARK LIKE THIS (✓) (Refer to the one already on the board) ON THE LINE IN FRONT OF THE NUMBER OF EACH OF THE THREE THINGS YOU LIKE BEST. THAT WILL MAKE TWO CHECK MARKS IN FRONT OF THE THREE THINGS YOU LIKE BEST OF ALL. YOU MAY DO THIS NOW. WAIT FOR THE NEXT DIRECTIONS WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED. (Wait until all are ready to follow you before giving the next directions.)

NEXT, GO OVER THE LIST AGAIN AND PLACE A CIRCLE LIKE THIS (○) (Refer to the circle already made on the board.) ON THE BLANK LINE IN FRONT OF THE NUMBERS OF THE THINGS YOU NEVER CARE TO READ IN THE NEWSPAPER. YOU MAY DO THIS NOW. WAIT FOR THE NEXT DIRECTIONS WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED. (Wait until all are ready to follow you before giving the next directions.)

LOOK ON THE NEXT PAGE. YOU HAVE BEFORE YOU SOME SHORT STORIES. YOU ARE GOING TO ENJOY THESE STORIES. UNDER THE SUBJECT IT READS: HERE IS A NUMBER OF SHORT STORIES THAT YOU MAY READ. YOU ARE ASKED TO READ ALL OF THEM. SOME YOU WILL LIKE. YOU MAY NOT LIKE ALL OF THEM. AFTER EACH STORY THERE IS A LIST OF THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF STORIES. THERE IS A BLANK LINE AND NUMBER BEFORE EACH KIND OF STORY. WHEN YOU HAVE READ THE STORY, YOU ARE ASKED TO TELL WHAT KIND OF A STORY IT IS BY PUTTING A CHECK MARK LIKE THIS (✓) (Refer to the one on the board) ON THE BLANK LINE BEFORE THE KIND YOU THINK IT IS. AFTER THIS YOU ARE ASKED TO PLACE A MARK ~~X~~ ON THE LEFT SIDE WHERE IT TELLS YOU TO MARK IF YOU LIKE THE STORY, AND YOU ARE ASKED TO MARK X ON THE RIGHT SIDE WHERE IT TELLS YOU TO MARK IF YOU DO NOT LIKE THE STORY.

NOTICE THAT EACH STORY HAS A NUMBER. YOU ARE TO BEGIN WITH STORY NUMBER ONE. LET US LOOK AT IT BEFORE BEGINNING TO READ IT. TURN OVER THE PAGE. NOTICE AT THE END OF THE STORY YOU ARE TOLD TO CHECK THE KIND OF STORY YOU THINK THIS IS. A LIST OF THE KINDS IS GIVEN. YOU MUST MAKE A CHECK MARK ON THE LINE BEFORE THE KIND OF STORY YOU THINK NUMBER ONE IS.....JUST BELOW THIS LIST YOU WILL NOTICE THAT THE HEAVY BLACK PRINT READS: IF YOU LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE. ...THERE IS A BLANK LINE THERE. IF YOU LIKE STORY NUMBER ONE YOU WILL PUT AN X ON THAT LINE. ...ACROSS FROM THIS IT READS: IF YOU DO NOT LIKE THIS STORY MARK X HERE. THERE IS A BLANK LINE THERE ALSO. IF YOU DO NOT LIKE THE STORY YOU WILL PUT AN X ON THAT LINE. THIS IS WHAT YOU MUST DO FOR EACH OF THESE STORIES. ....WHEN YOU ARE THROUGH WITH THE STORIES YOU ARE TOLD ON THE LAST PAGE OF THIS BOOKLET, LET US TURN TO THE LAST PAGE, TO GO BACK OVER THE STORIES YOU HAVE READ AND PUT A CIRCLE AROUND THE NUMBERS OF THREE STORIES THAT YOU LIKE BEST OF ALL THE STORIES YOU HAVE READ IN THIS EXERCISE. ....WHEN YOU HAVE DONE THIS BRING YOUR PAPER TO ME. I WILL SEE WHETHER YOU HAVE MISSED ANYTHING.

NOW YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO.....TURN BACK TO STORY NUMBER ONE AND BEGIN READING.... READ ALL THE STORIES AND MARK AS YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD. IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND ANY POINT, RAISE YOUR HAND AND I WILL COME TO YOU. ....WHEN YOU HAVE DONE ALL BRING YOUR PAPER TO ME. YOU MAY NOW BEGIN WITH STORY NUMBER ONE. (Watch closely. Be sure that they do not leave out any thing by oversight.)

To the Teacher: The writer wishes to thank you for time and patience.